

OFFICERS OF THE SENATE OF VIRGINIA
1776 - 1956



The Capitol of Virginia. The center building was designed by Thomas Jefferson while Minister to France. The east and west wings, where Senate and House of Delegates hold their sessions, were completed for occupancy in 1905.

Officers of the Senate of Virginia 1776-1956



By
GEORGE WESLEY ROGERS

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA
MCMLIX

PREFACE

IN THIS the first compilation of the biographies of the officers of the Senate of Virginia dating from its initial Session October 7, 1776, to its adjournment sine die September 29, 1956, many complexities were encountered. Due to the impossibility of obtaining photographs of all officers, this much desired feature was necessarily curtailed. The biographies have been extended to include available unusual incidents in the notable lives of the officers and illustrations of several edifices where sessions were held.

In assembling the biographies, the compiler is sincerely indebted to many citizens; members of both branches of the legislature and their staffs; the staffs of the State Library, Valentine Museum and Virginia Historical Society, State and County officials, relatives and friends of the officers and especially to members of the Departments of History and Archives of West Virginia, the Library of Congress and New York City Public Library.

GEORGE W. ROGERS, *Postmaster*
Senate of Virginia

1959

OFFICERS OF THE SENATE OF VIRGINIA
1776 - 1956

JOURNAL

OF THE

SENATE.

*At a GENERAL ASSEMBLY begun and holden at the CAPITOL, in the city of
Williamsburg, on Monday the 7th day of October 1776, being the first year of the
commonwealth of Virginia.*

FIFTEEN members having taken the oath prescribed by an ordinance of Convention, took their seats in the House.

Ordered, that *John Pennington, junior*, be appointed clerk to this House; and having taken the oath directed by an ordinance of Convention to be taken by every person heretofore required by law to take the oaths of government, was thereupon admitted to his office.

Mr. Carrington moved, that the House should now proceed to the choice of a Speaker, and recommended *Archibald Cary*, *clq*; a gentleman who, he said, had given undeniable proofs of his abilities, integrity, and fitness for that office; and he was accordingly unanimously elected Speaker, and conducted to the chair by two members. He then rose and informed the House, that he had a just sense of the obligation they laid him under, and politely thanked them for the honour they had conferred on him.

Ordered, that *William Page*, and *William Rose, junior*, be appointed door-keepers to this House.

Ordered, that a committee be appointed to form standing rules and orders to be observed by this House; and a committee was appointed, of the following persons: *Mr. Carrington*, *mr. Mifflin*, *mr. Lomax*, *mr. Cabell*, *mr. Blair*, *mr. Thomas Lee*, *mr. Henry Lee*, and *mr. Brodley*; and that they report the same to the House.

Resolved, that five of the said gentlemen be a sufficient number to make a committee.

Ordered, that the House be adjourned till to-morrow, 10 o'clock.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1776.

First page of First Session of the Journal of the Senate of Virginia, Williamsburg, Virginia, October 7, 1776.

I

THE SENATE OF VIRGINIA

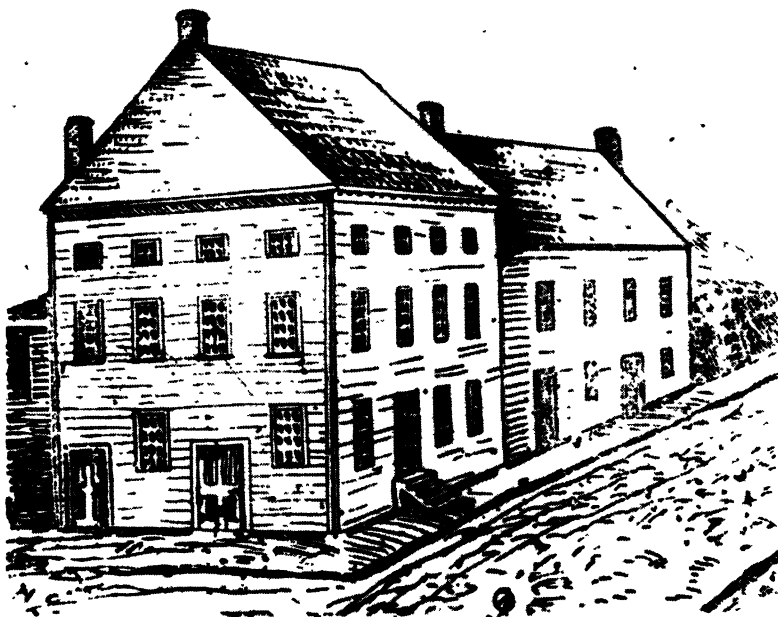
THE HISTORY of the Senate of Virginia gives it the rank of the model legislative body of the Western Hemisphere. Its origin dates back to the session of the Convention of 1776 when that body of patriotic and God-fearing men abandoned the dictatorship of Governor John Murray (Earl Dunmore) 1771-1776 and proceeded to release the Colony of Virginia from the ownership and rigid rule of the Mother Country. The Convention abolished the House of Burgesses and transferred a majority of its functions to a new body, House of Delegates, composed of one hundred members elected annually by the citizens, and to meet annually. The Colonial Council, the stronghold of the aristocracy, was discarded. In its stead, the Senate of Virginia was established, composed of twenty-four members representing twenty-four districts chosen by the taxpayers of each district for terms of six years. They were empowered to amend and approve legislation but not to initiate legislation.

In the interim of one hundred and eighty years (1776-1956) there have been many changes but the basic principles of the Constitution which the bicameral system has successfully functioned through peace, war, prosperity and almost the verge of poverty, its rank has risen in the estimation of the world.

There are many chapters in this span of nearly two centuries in which the members of the Legislature have played prominent roles as statesmen and active participants in all wars. One of the most interesting is the sacrifice they have made in attendance on frequent sessions, the length of time required to go to and from the place of meeting, the hardships endured enroute and in a number of instances the poor accommodations they were forced to accept, and the small emolument received for the services rendered their State and constituents.

The initial session began October 7, 1776 following several Conventions, of which the majority of the members were delegates. The accommodations at Williamsburg were not sufficient to take care of the assembly and citizens from all parts of the State, which was fast growing westwardly. This was realized by the Legislature, also the proximity of the enemy's fleet off the shores of Jamestown, the original seat of government, also gave them grave concern.

Early in 1778 the Assembly ordered the removal of the troops,



The Second Capitol. Occupied by the Legislature of Virginia on its removal from Williamsburg to Richmond on May 1, 1780. It was a rented, two-storied frame structure at the N.W. corner of Cary and Fourteenth Streets.



Tarleton's Oak. Lieutenant Banastre Tarleton with 250 red coated British cavalrymen are alleged to have rested under this tree while in pursuit of ex-Governor Thomas Jefferson and the Legislature of Virginia. The Assembly had been warned by Captain Jack Jouett, Jr., whose tavern house assembly place they hastily vacated and left for Staunton. Photo 1959 by Boice Loving of the *Charlottesville Progress*.



Trinity Episcopal Church, Staunton, Va. The Legislature convened here on June 7, 1781 with a roll call shortage of seven members. They were further unmolested and completed their session June 23rd.

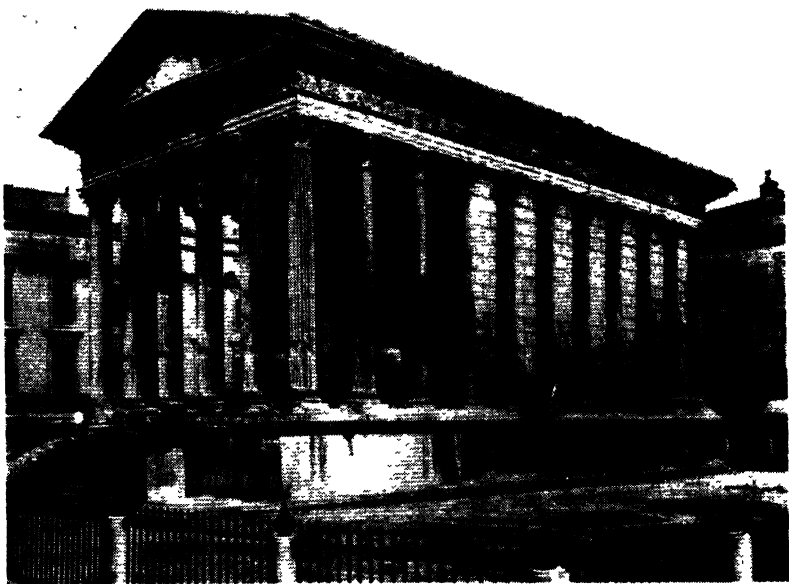


Jefferson's Capitol, with modifications, especially the changing of the roof, as it appeared prior to 1904. It was first occupied for sessions of the Legislature October 27, 1789, when both branches moved from the unimposing structure they had occupied since 1780.

arms, ammunition and all public records to Richmond. Then in May 1779, an Act was passed removing the seat of Government to Richmond and the acquisition of six squares of ground, each surrounded by four streets. The above tract of land is the present Capitol Square. Anticipating the removal of the seat of Government to Richmond, an enterprising citizen hastily erected a two-story and basement frame structure at the northwest corner of 14th and Cary Streets. This rented structure became the second place of assembly of the Legislature May 1, 1780 and was referred to as the Public Building or State House.

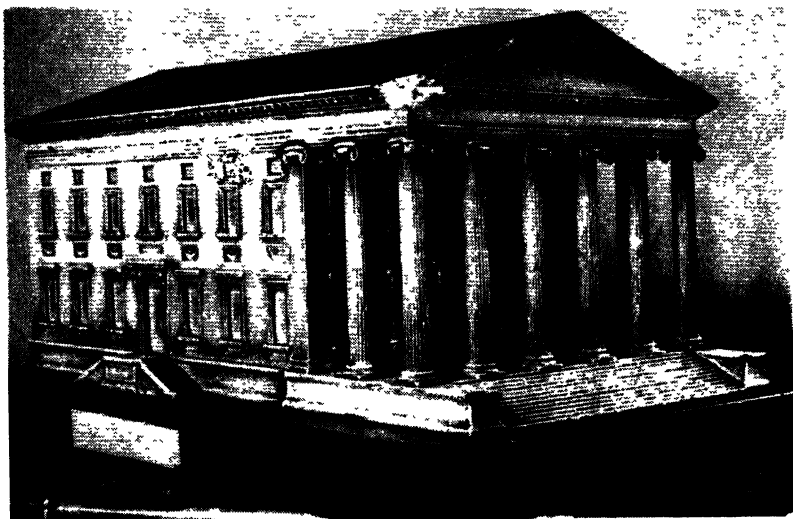
At the request of the General Assembly, former Governor Thomas Jefferson, Minister to France, designed the main or center unit of the present Capitol, the cornerstone of which was laid August 18, 1785.

In December 1780 the British Army for ten months romped through Eastern Virginia at their will. Benedict Arnold, who had recently earned undying infamy by deserting to the enemy, twice threatened Richmond. In April 1781 the General Assembly adjourned to meet in Charlottesville. Arnold was shortly followed by the British under Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton, who overlooked the unsightly temporary Assembly headquarters and made a quick departure. With information that the legislature was in session at Charlottesville and Governor Thomas Jefferson was at Monticello (the Governor's term of office had expired a few days prior), Tarleton with 250 redcoat cavalymen made a wild dash for Monticello and Charlottesville. Captain John (Jack) Jouett, the Paul Revere of Virginia, who was visiting a tavern at Cuckoo in Louisa County and had equipped his tavern-home at Charlottesville as an improvised Assembly Hall, lost no time in guessing Tarleton's mission, mounted his horse and raced through backwoods and cross country, notifying former Governor Jefferson of the approaching redcoats. In a short time, the Legislature upon receipt of the information, quickly decided to make Staunton their fourth temporary Capital of Virginia. On opening of the session in Trinity Episcopal Church on June 7th, 1781 the roll call disclosed that seven members had failed to clear Charlottesville or were lost enroute. The Assembly, unmolested, concluded their duties on June 23rd but they were ready at a moment's notice that if Tarleton and his redcoat troopers, crossed Rock Fish Gap, to pick up their books and baggage and proceed further west.

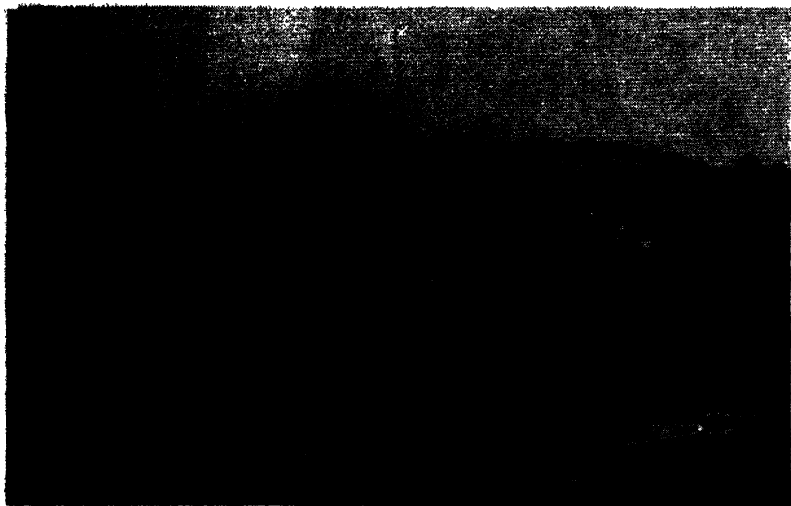


In alto ANFITEATRO ROMANO *in basso* TEMPIO ROMANO DETTO - MAISON CARRÉE -

The Maison Carree at Nimes, France, that inspired Jefferson's design of Virginia's Capitol.



Jefferson's Plaster Model. Thomas Jefferson, Minister to France, was requested by the directors of the development of Capitol Hill to assist them in selecting a plan for the proposed Capitol. After many days of research and modeling, he sent this plaster model across the Atlantic as his plan for the Capitol.



Fauquier White Sulphur Springs, near Warrenton. Sessions were held here in 1849, due to an epidemic of cholera in the Tidewater section and the apprehension of the members that its spread might reach Richmond.



The Restored Capitol at Williamsburg. In 1934, upon the completion of the duplication of the original Capitol at Williamsburg, the Legislature accepted the invitation of Colonial Williamsburg to meet one-day in the new building each session. Due to scarcity of transportation facilities, it was necessary to omit these sessions in 1944 and 1946.

A bronze tablet commemorating the meeting of the Assembly in Staunton in 1781 was erected in the Trinity Church-yard in 1913 by the Beverley Moore Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution.

On January 5, 1782, the old frame building in Richmond again became the temporary Capitol of Virginia and all sessions were held there until the center unit of the present Capitol was partly completed for occupancy October 26, 1788. All sessions of the Legislature have been held on Capitol Hill with one exception. On May 28, 1849, a revision of the Code was the number one item on the calendar of both branches of the Assembly, but its consideration by a joint committee was suddenly halted. The rapid spread of an epidemic of cholera in Tidewater created uneasiness among the members. They wished to adjourn to a more secure location to complete their arduous task of revision of the Code. A joint committee was soon at work on location and in a few days they recommended an ideal spot, the most luxurious resort in the State, the Fauquier White Sulphur Springs. The Committee's recommendation was nearly unanimously adopted. On June 11th the Assembly convened in the ballroom of this popular spa, complete with sulphur springs, bowling alleys, billiard parlors and a nearby first class race track in operation. While cholera raged in Tidewater and economy-minded editors raved over the expenditures, the Legislators completed their arduous task of the revision of the Code of 1849 that brought the government closer to the people. The election of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General by the qualified voters was one of the many important changes. The next session convening December 3rd in Richmond, and all subsequent sessions have been held on Capitol Hill.

In 1905 the east and west wings where the two bodies meet were ready for occupancy. Upon the completion in 1934 of the restoration of the first capitol at Williamsburg, where the initial session of both branches of the General Assembly convened October 7, 1776, the cordial invitation of Colonial Williamsburg was accepted and a one day session of both bodies and a joint session have been held during each session since 1934 except during 1944 and 1946, when scarcity of transportation prevented.

II

SPEAKERS OF THE SENATE, 1776-1852

ARCHIBALD CARY, 1776-1787

NATHANIEL HARRISON, 1779

JOHN JONES, 1787-1788

JOHN PRIDE, JR., 1789-1793

PAUL CARRINGTON, JR., 1794

JOHN JAMES MAUND, 1794-1795

LUDWELL LEE, 1796-1799

ARCHIBALD STUART, 1799-1800

RICHARD KENNON, 1800-1802

FRANCIS TALIAFERRO BROOKE, 1802-1804

CREED TAYLOR, 1804-1805

ROBERT TAYLOR, 1805-1815

WILLIAM GREEN POINDEXTER, 1815-1816

EDWARD WATTS, 1816-1821

WILLIAM COCKE HOLT, 1821-1832

GEORGE COKE DROMGOOLE, 1832-1835

STAFFORD HENRY PARKER, 1835-1839

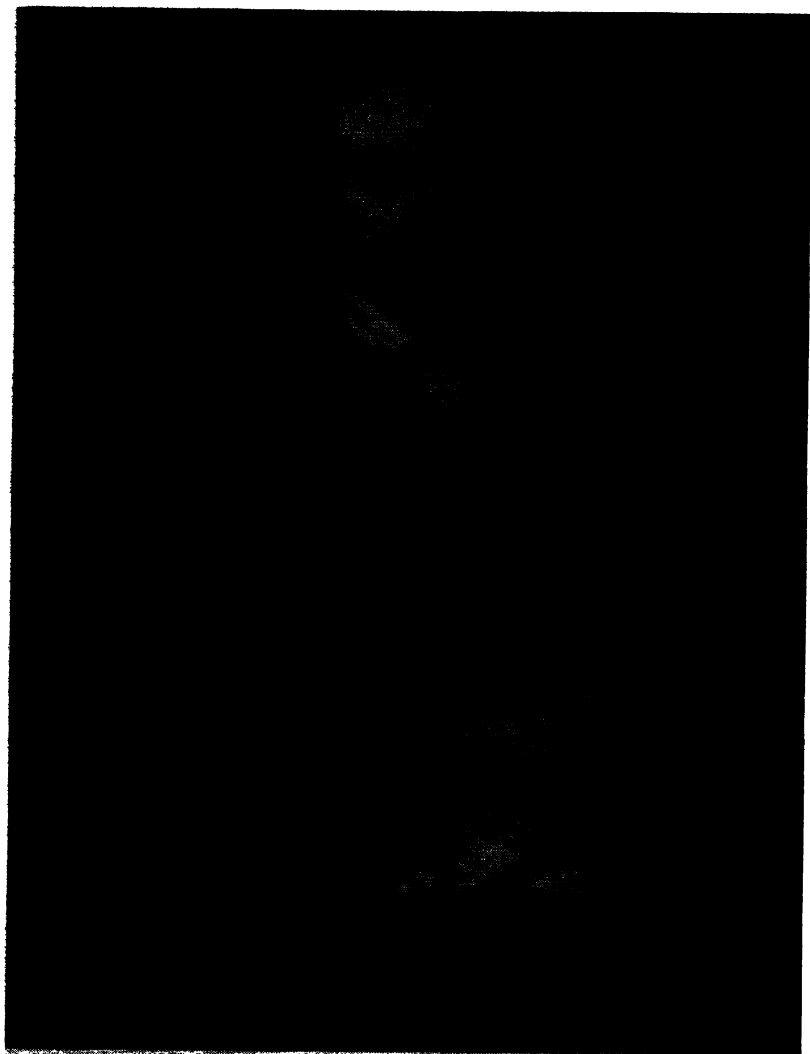
JOHN WHITE NASH, 1839-1842

CHARLES ARTHUR HUNTON, 1842-1843

EDWARD PEGRAM SCOTT, M.D., 1843-1849

JOHN W. TYLER, 1849-1850

WILLIAM H. DENNIS, 1850-1851



Archibald Lang

ARCHIBALD CARY

CHESTERFIELD

Initial Speaker, 1776-1787

CARY, ARCHIBALD—Compatriot of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, George Mason, Patrick Henry, et als. Former Senator Robert K. Brock in his bristling biography of "Archibald Cary of Amptill" refers to him as "The Wheel Horse of the American Revolution," and writes "No man perhaps in the entire colony of Virginia, an empire in territorial extent through so long a period served his country so well and with such fidelity as did Archibald Cary of "Amptill." He was born in Williamsburg January 24, 1721. He early became a member of the House of Burgesses, and in 1764 served on the committee which reported the address to the King, Lords and Commons, on the principles of taxation; and in 1770 was one of the signers of the "Mercantile Association," which pledged its members to use no British fabrics thereafter, the design being to resist by practical measures the encroachments of the royal government.

In 1773 he was one of the celebrated committee of correspondence by which the colonies were united into one great league against Parliament. When the Senate was organized he was chosen as Speaker, where he presided with great dignity and efficiency. At this time occurred the incident with which his name is most generally connected. The scheme of a dictatorship had been broached. Patrick Henry's name had been mentioned without his knowledge or consent for the post. In the midst of the general agitation Cary met Henry's half-brother in the lobby of the assembly and said to him: "Sir, I am told that your brother wishes to be dictator. Tell him for me, that the day of his appointment shall be the day of his death, for he shall find my dagger in his heart before the sunset of that day." The project was speedily abandoned. He was a good representative of the former race of Virginia planters, delighting in agricultural pursuits, in blooded horses and improved breeds of cattle, which he imported from England, and attended to with great care.

He was over six feet in height, raw boned, very muscular, and in his school days somewhat of a pugilist and quick tempered. But

good judgment and age curbed him down as he matured. He ranked as one of the most practical and efficient politicians of his day.

The exact date and place of his interment are not of record. His will is dated February 21, 1787. February 26, 1787, is given by several writers as the date of his death. Ampthill in Chesterfield and Ceeley in Warwick County, where he resided prior to his father moving to Chesterfield, are both mentioned as being the resting place of the initial Speaker.

NATHANIEL HARRISON

PRINCE GEORGE

Speaker, 1779

HARRISON, NATHANIEL, of Brandon—Mutual ancestor of the 9th and 26th Presidents of the United States, was a neighbor of Archibald Cary and was chosen substitute Speaker during the illness of the initial Speaker at the Session October 4 to December 24, 1779.

He developed Brandon, regarded by many as one of the finest estates in Virginia. The present house, built in 1767 during his ownership, with its lovely garden is today one of the most admired homes in Eastern Virginia.

While Senator Nathaniel Harrison occupied the Speaker's chair in the Senate, his first cousin, once removed, Benjamin Harrison of Berkeley, Charles City County across James River, was Speaker of the House of Delegates for several sessions.

Nathaniel Harrison was born in 1713 and died at Brandon in 1791 and is buried in the Harrison burial plot at Brandon.

JOHN JONES

BRUNSWICK

Speaker, 1787-1788

JONES, JOHN, of Level Grove, Brunswick County—Grandson of Captain Roger Jones, a Cavalier who came to Virginia from England in 1680 with Lord Culpeper and commanded a sloop stationed in Chesapeake Bay for the suppression of piracy. John Jones, the future Senator and Speaker representing the district composed of Brunswick, Mecklenburg and Lunenburg for sixteen years, inherited the daring and courageous fighting qualifications of his grandfather.

In 1781 on their return to headquarters at Portsmouth, the British cavalry leader Colonel Banastre Tarleton and his redcoat cavalry outfit, after unsuccessful hunts for the General Assembly at Richmond and Charlottesville, passed through Brunswick County, destroying everything in their path. Senator Jones at that period in charge of the militia of Brunswick County, hastily summoned his troops and gave pursuit to the Britishers. Tarleton having information pertaining to the fighting qualities of Lieutenant Jones, gave the command—"double quick for 'Hell Cat Jack Jones' is on our trail." The neighbors of fighting "Jack Jones" appreciating the appellation, afterwards referred to him as "Hell Cat Jack Jones."

A plaque on the front of the Court House at Lawrenceville which briefly depicts the service he rendered to his Country, State, Senatorial District and his beloved County of Brunswick, reads as follows: Col. John Jones of Brunswick, soldier of the Revolution, February 14, 1735—January 11, 1793, Vestryman of St. Andrew's Parish 1775-79. Justice 1760-93, Sheriff 1773-75, Clerk 1789-93, House of Burgesses 1772-73, Virginia Senate 1776-89, Speaker of the Senate 1788-89, Virginia Convention of 1788. By successive steps in the Militia became County Lieutenant 1778-89.

Erected 1935 by the Col. John Bannister Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution aided by his descendants in commemoration of the bicentennial of his birth.

During the period Lieutenant Jones served his District as a Senator, there was another Senator John Jones representing the District composed of Dinwiddie, Southampton and Sussex.

JOHN PRIDE, JR.

AMELIA COUNTY

Speaker, 1789-1793

PRIDE, JOHN JR.—He was proud of the honor of being chosen on February 5, 1789 one of the Electors to choose the first President and Vice President of the United States. His choice was George Washington for President and John Adams for Vice President. This future speaker of the Senate was born in York County and became a resident of Amelia with his wife in 1760, following his father who preceded him nearly twenty years, shortly after the formation of Amelia County.

In 1769 he was appointed deputy clerk to Thomas Griffin Peachy and became his successor, serving until 1775. He was elected a member of the House of Delegates in 1778, serving in that capacity until 1787, and of the Convention of 1788.

In 1787 he was appointed by the General Assembly a member of the Commission to clear, improve and extend navigation on the Appomattox River from Bannisters Mill as far up the river as in their judgment they deemed practicable to have sufficient depth and width of water to navigate boats, batteaus or canoes capable of carrying six hogsheads of tobacco. The Commission was empowered to finance the project by gifts and the charging of tolls not in excess of the toll charged on the Potomac.

In 1787 he was chosen Senator as successor to Archibald Cary for the counties of Amelia, Chesterfield, Cumberland and Powhatan. In 1789 he was the choice of his colleagues as Speaker where he served with ability, dignity and popularity until his death in 1793, at his home, Prideville, near the site of the first Court House of Amelia. He vigorously fought the seizing of the "Glebe Lands" for the erection of the new Court House.

PAUL CARRINGTON, JR.

CHARLOTTE

Speaker One Day In 1794

CARRINGTON, PAUL, JR.—The possessor of many achievements including the record of the shortest term any Speaker ever served the Senate. He was elected by his Senatorial Associates on November 11, 1794, after a splendid record of three years' service as a Senator representing the counties of Charlotte, Halifax and Prince Edward and resigned the following day to accept the Judgeship of the General Court.

Prior to his elevation to the Senate, he had demonstrated his unusual ability as a legislator as a member of the House of Delegates from Charlotte during the sessions of 1786-88, and the Convention of 1788 for the consideration of the proposed Federal Constitution. As a member of the General Court, because of his justness, integrity, fairness, judicial career, his opinions were respected and he was often referred to as a worthy son of an illustrious and eminent father, Paul Carrington, Sr., who rose from a self-taught law student to be successfully passed to practice his chosen profession at the age of 21. He served as a member of the Court of Appeals.

Mrs. John W. Eggleston (nee Miss Ella Watkins Carrington), wife of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals, a native of Charlotte County, is a great, great granddaughter of the Senior Judge who died on January 23, 1818.

The Junior Judge who holds the Senate record for brevity of service as Speaker, was born September 20, 1764 and died January 8, 1816.

JOHN JAMES MAUND

WESTMORELAND

Speaker, 1794-1795

MAUND, JOHN JAMES—A Welsh emigrant from Penbrooke, Wales, settled in Westmoreland County about 1760. Most likely his political qualifications to be chosen the Senatorial representative of the historic Counties of Westmoreland, King George and Stafford were attributed to his affable mannerism, conservatism and the influence of his father-in-law, Counselor Robert (King) Carter of Nomini Hall, Westmoreland, whose daughter, Harriett Lucy, he wedded August 1, 1779.

His Senatorial life covered the sessions of 1793 to 1796. On the resignation of the popular Paul Carrington, Jr., of Charlotte, November 12, 1794, as Speaker, the Welsh emigrant who had endeared himself to his colleagues, was their choice as Speaker for the remainder of that and the following session.

In the tenure of the two sessions, he was an able presiding officer and he did not establish the precedent of holding sessions on Christmas Day, December 25, 1794 and 1795. The precedent was established during the ninth session of the General Assembly when both Houses met daily (except Sundays) from October 16, 1780 to January 2, 1781, and failed in their deliberation according to the Journals to make any reference to their transacting merely routine legislation on the most sacred day of the year. They concluded their arduous labors on January 2, and agreed to reconvene for a short session in March.

The first Act to designate Christmas and other holidays to be observed was approved February 20, 1880, effective from date of its passage, nearly one hundred years after Speaker Maund's services to his adopted State.

LUDWELL LEE

PRINCE WILLIAM

Speaker, 1796-1799

LEE, LUDWELL—Second son of Colonel Richard Henry Lee, signer of the Declaration of Independence and the author of the First National Thanksgiving Proclamation (1777) issued by Congress at York, Pennsylvania, was born in Westmoreland County in 1760. He was elected a member of the House of Delegates for the sessions 1787-90 and a member of the Senate 1792 through 1799 for Prince William and Fairfax Counties. He was Speaker the last three years.

There are two of a number of outstanding events in the life of the popular Senator of which the residents of Leesburg tell with great admiration. In August, 1814 after the American troops had been defeated by the British at Bladensburg, it was apparent that the seat of Government at Washington was highly probable of being seized. The seriousness of the situation was fully realized by President Madison from the reports he was receiving from Secretary of State and War, James Monroe, who was on the scene, seeking to rally the American forces to defend the Capitol. Monroe strongly advised the removal of all important government papers, including the original Declaration of Independence and the painting of Dolly Madison to more safe quarters. No time was lost in the procurement of oxen and carts and scores of linen sacks for the removal of the valuables. Where to store them was a perplexing question. Several stops were made, and finally the cavalcade arrived in Leesburg where the genial former Senator resided and arrangements were made for the storage of the priceless documents in Robey's vaults where they remained for two weeks.

President Madison and a retinue of clerks and servants became the guests of ex-Senator Lee at Leesburg where they directed the affairs of the nation. Ever since, the Leesburgers have asserted that their town for two weeks was the de-facto capital of the United States.

In 1825 when General Lafayette visited Virginia he was the weekend guest of Ludwell Lee at "Belmont." A festival was staged in honor of America's most popular Frenchman and the attendance was so great it was essential to quarter a number of them across

the road at the palatial plantation of his cousin Thomas Ludwell Lee. As night fell, a double row of servants with torches lined the path across the road, as the guests passed from one house to the other. Many years later "Belmont" became the country home of Major General Patrick Hurley, Secretary of War to President Herbert Hoover. The century and half old mansion is now owned by George C. Clark of Washington.

7

ARCHIBALD STUART

AUGUSTA

Speaker, 1799-1800

STUART, ARCHIBALD.—First among the young men west of the Blue Ridge, whose qualifications attracted public attention and fitted their possessor for acting with effect in public assemblies.

An interesting incident is related as to how well the above is applicable to Archibald Stuart. A graduate of Liberty Hall, now Washington and Lee University, Archibald approached his father, Major Alexander Stuart, and expressed the desire to study law. His father at once acquiesced and made arrangements for him to enter William and Mary and to reside in the home of President Bishop Madison of the College. His studies being interrupted by the approaching British troops, he hastily left school and enlisted in his father's battery of Artillery from Rockbridge. At the battle of Guilford he saw his father shot from his horse and robbed of all personal property, including his uniform, by British Tories.

In his early entry at William and Mary, where Alpha, the first chapter of Phi Beta Kappa was formed, he was chosen President and keeper of the seal. On his return to the college after the successful defeat of the British, he found that the Society had disbanded due to the war. He resumed his law studies under Thomas Jefferson for whom he cherished, as his preceptor, the highest admiration and esteem.

He began the practice of law in Rockbridge County and in 1873 he was brought out as a candidate for the House of Delegates three days before the entry closed and lost by thirteen votes. A few days later his father dispatched him to Fincastle on a business mission with Colonel Skillers. Upon completion of his mission he accepted the Colonel's invitation to be his guest at a festival to be given that night, at which most of the prominent citizens of Botetourt would be in attendance. At the festival he was requested to respond to a toast; it was so well received that he was requested to become a candidate for the House of Delegates at the election to be held the following Monday. He was confronted with a slight difficulty as he was not a free holder in that county. Colonel Skillers' prompt generosity soon removed that obstacle by transferring a piece of property to Stuart, thus making him eligible to enter the race in which

he became an easy winner. He was re-elected the following year after which he returned to Augusta where he was successfully chosen to the House on the platform "Ratification of the Federal Constitution."

Learning two days before the election that his former constituents in Botetourt were opposed to ratification, he rode night and day the seventy-five miles to Fincastle, arriving just as the bell announced the opening of the polls. Appealing to the election officials for five minutes to address the voters, they granted his request. His oration changed the views of sufficient of his former friends so that ratification was favored by a substantial majority. He was successfully chosen to the Senate from Augusta in 1797 and two years later he was elevated to Speaker.

In 1799 he was honored with the Judgeship of the General Court of which Albemarle County was included. In holding Court at Charlottesville he was always the guest of his former preceptor, Jefferson.

Some years after his death, the silver emblem of the Phi Beta Kappa Society that he carried with him a half century for safe keeping was found in a secret drawer of his escritoire by his son and returned to the Chapter at William and Mary.

RICHARD KENNON

MECKLENBURG

Speaker, 1800-1802

KENNON, RICHARD—Credited with many honors and accomplishments in the short span of his life of forty-four years. He was born and received his early schooling at the Kennon plantation, "Pine-wood" in Mecklenburg County.

In his early teens he enlisted in the Revolutionary War, was advanced to Lieutenant and a short while later was promoted to Brigadier General of all Virginia troops.

He served as a member of the Convention of 1788 and House of Delegates 1788-1792. In 1798 he became a Senator and at the session of 1800 was chosen Speaker. In 1804 President Thomas Jefferson appointed him the first Governor of the Louisiana Territory recently acquired from France, which office he filled with ability and dignity until his death in New Orleans in 1805.

FRANCIS TALIAFERRO BROOKE

SPOTSYLVANIA

Speaker, 1802-1804

BROOKE, FRANCIS T.—Commissioned a First Lieutenant in the Revolutionary War in 1780 at the age of seventeen with an illustrious background and rare ability, he rose rapidly in his unprecedented service to his Country and State. He was a brother of Governor Robert Brooke (1794-96) and a Judge of the Court of Appeals at the age of forty-one. He was born at the family estate "Springfield" on the shores of the Rappahannock four miles below Fredericksburg, educated at his home by private tutors, a pupil of the school at Fredericksburg, and read Latin and Greek as an apt scholar of Alexander Dunham. His grandfather came to America on the same ship with Lieutenant Governor Alexander Spotswood, and later as State surveyor, he accompanied the Governor on his first trip across the Blue Ridge. As a memento of the trip he was presented with a golden horseshoe set with garnets to be worn as a scarf pin. The much publicized scarf pin remained in the family for several generations and its disappearance is unaccounted for.

At the age of seventeen, in 1780, Francis and John Brooke, twin brothers, entered the Revolutionary War and were commissioned First Lieutenants in General Harrison's Artillery. Their ability was quickly recognized and their promotions were rapid. In March 1781 they were ordered to Richmond to take command of an old wooden sloop loaded with cannons and iron destined to repair the fortifications at Portsmouth wrecked the previous winter by the forces of Benedict Arnold who had earned undying infamy by deserting to the enemy. The sloop slowly progressed down the river with its heavy cargo to "Curls" (Curle's Neck) where it became a member of the fleet under Commodore Lewis of Fredericksburg of the twenty-gun ship *Renown* awaiting orders. After a delay of ten days, which as a frequent guest of Colonel Richard Randolph, the owner of the vast estate "Curls," was most enjoyable, early one morning they were hailed from the Chesterfield shore by Colonel North, an aide of Baron Steuben, who came aboard the *Renown* and informed Commodore Lewis that the British Fleet was in Hampton Roads with Richmond as their much desired destination. Commodore Lewis was ordered to place the guns and stores on shore and to proceed

back to Richmond as far as possible and to beach the ship if overtaken. They were halted at Osborne, and made prisoners but managed to reach shore at nightfall and walked to Richmond. Colonel Francis Brooke was ordered to take charge of the arsenal at Westham where his time was spent in transferring the stores of the arsenal several times from one shore to the other. Here he had the pleasure of meeting Governor Thomas Jefferson who was seeking flints for the troops fighting in the North and South. When Lord Cornwallis crossed the James at Westover, Colonel Brooke was ordered to throw the guns into the Westham Creek and store the powder up the river at Columbia.

After the close of hostilities, Colonel Brooke divided his time at his father's plantation for two years, spending a portion of the time fox hunting with General Spotswood, a grandson of the former Lieutenant Governor, and incidentally paying considerable attention to Miss Mary Randolph Spotswood, his sweetheart before the war. Settling down, he tried the study of medicine with his brother, Dr. Laurence Brooke, which did not appeal to his fancy, and he switched over to law under his brother Robert. He was duly licensed to practice law in 1788.

He began the serious study of the doctrine of pleadings in his brother's office, but preferring to branch out for himself, he opened offices in Morgantown and Clarksburg, and within a short time he was appointed Commonwealth's Attorney for the district. Preferring the shores of the Rappahannock and its attractions to the West Virginia Mountains, he returned to Tappahannock, becoming associated with Bushrod Washington, afterwards Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeals of the United States, Alexander Campbell and the noted Scotch lawyer, Warden.

In October, 1791 he was happily married to his childhood sweetheart, Mary Randolph Spotswood. He served as a member of the House from Essex, 1794-95, member of the Senate 1800-04 from Spotsylvania, Orange and Madison. In 1802 when chosen Speaker, President Thomas Jefferson sent him his parliamentary manual with a very flattering note wafered in it. Speaker Brooke had enjoyed an intimate acquaintance with President Jefferson dating from their meeting at the Westham Arsenal in 1781. Speaker Brooke became Brigadier General in 1802, Judge of the General Court on January 12, 1804, and a member of the Supreme Court of Appeals January 30, 1811.

This distinguished soldier and jurist was a member of Richmond's reception committee on October 27, 1824, when Richmond entertained General Marquis de LaFayette and his son, George Washington LaFayette, on the General's third visit to the city he had saved forty-three years prior from being captured by the British.

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CREED TAYLOR

CUMBERLAND

Speaker, 1804-1805

TAYLOR, CREED—One of Virginia's vigorous and learned lawyers of his era, established Needham Law School, the second law school in Virginia and the fourth in the United States at his unpretentious home "Needham" in Cumberland County where he was born.

His legal training began as a clerk in the offices of Colonel George Carrington, Jr., and his successor, Miller Woodson. In the conduct of his law school he was the first in the United States to establish the "Moot Court" where the knowledge of the practice of law in all of its branches could be gained while the student acquired the theory. The school is credited with graduating over three hundred and fifty students in their legal training in the one-room detached frame building on his lawn, in the twenty years of its operation in close proximity of Hampden-Sydney College. Judge Taylor's family was the same as that of Zachary Taylor, the twelfth President of the United States.

He served in the House of Delegates the session of 1788. In 1798 he was elected Senator for the District embracing five counties and was honored with the Speakership for the Sessions of 1804-05. Appointed Chancellor of the Supreme Court of Chancery for the Richmond District as successor to Chancellor George Wythe during his occupancy of the bench, he paid taxes in 1809 in Richmond on three slaves and one chair.

He was a Commissioner in the choosing of the site for Farmville and in the selection of the location of the University of Virginia. This vigorous and learned lawyer is described as a highly influential politician with an aristocratic bearing, elegant manners, always clad in short breeches, and long stockings fastened at the knees with large buckles, wearing his silvery hair combed back from the forehead and confined in a queue at the back of the head.

In his later years on the bench he became irritable and fitful. During his last term of Court at Lynchburg he adjourned Court until twelve o'clock the next day. The barristers in attendance were startled the next morning to hear the court house bell ringing loudly at eleven o'clock and they hurried with all speed to the court house. "Peachy" Gilmer, one of the lawyers who arrived out of

breath, was reproached by the Chancellor for being late, whereupon Mr. Gilmer remarked that the appointed time was twelve o'clock and it was then only eleven fifteen. The Chancellor exclaimed in a passionate voice, "Gentlemen, I will have you in the future to know when I take my seat on the bench, it is twelve o'clock." The self-taught able professor and distinguished jurist died at Needham January 7, 1836, and was buried in the family section on the Needham farm.



**NEEDHAM IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY, WHERE THE NOTED CHANCELLOR
CREED TAYLOR ESTABLISHED A LAW SCHOOL IN 1821.**

ROBERT TAYLOR

ORANGE

Speaker, 1805-1815

TAYLOR, ROBERT—Lived his four score and two years in his native County of Orange, having been born near the Court House April 29, 1763. Upon his graduation and permission to practice the profession of law, he opened his office at Orange. In December 1805 he was chosen successor to Senator Francis Peyton for the Counties of Orange, Spotsylvania, Culpeper, Madison, Loudoun and Fauquier. Shortly after the oath of office was administered to him, he was unanimously chosen Speaker.

After ten years of strenuous Senatorial duty for a wide area, he retired and resumed his practice of law, which he began upon reaching the age of twenty-one.

In 1825-27 he represented his District in Congress but refused to stand for re-election.

He again returned to his legal practice and devoted considerable time to his extensive farm, "Meadow View," until his death, July 3, 1845.

WILLIAM GREEN POINDEXTER

LOUISA

Speaker, 1815-1816

POINDEXTER, WILLIAM G.—Son of Rev. John Poindexter, Clerk of Louisa County for twenty years, and for thirty years a prominent county and court official. A decided character of strong and vigorous intellect. The elder Poindexter, after the Revolution of 1792, was ordained a minister of the Baptist Church, although the Poindexters, since their arrival in Virginia more than one hundred years before, had been Episcopalians. He served the famous Round About Baptist Church near Louisa Court House as its pastor for twenty-five years.

William Green Poindexter, the Parson's son, was born at Byrd Creek, Louisa County, and upon completion of his education he became one of Louisa County's ablest attorneys, a Justice and a large land owner. He was chosen as the Senatorial representative of the Counties of Louisa, Goochland and Henrico, effective December 3, 1810.

On December 4, 1815, he was honored by his fellow Senators as Speaker, in which position he eminently served until December 5, 1816, when he tendered his resignation as a member of the Senate and moved his residence from Louisa to Goochland County.

Senator Poindexter could well be proud of his senatorial record, his strong beliefs, his standing amongst his constituents, his ancestors, and his descendants.

His Uncle George Gilmer Poindexter was an early Governor of Mississippi, having served in many high places, and his code of laws is still in use.

In 1838 Senator Poindexter's sons, Dr. William Quarles and James Nicholas Poindexter, with their families, servants and household belongings, moved to Mississippi by the overland route and settled in Macon, Mississippi, where other members of the Poindexter family had blazed the trail west years previously.

Today William Green Poindexter V is a resident of "Rosebowers Plantation" near Greenwood, Mississippi, where many Poindexters reside.

EDWARD WATTS

CAMPBELL

Speaker, 1816-1821

WATTS, EDWARD—The first Democratic candidate for Governor to bow to the Whigs when he was defeated in 1834 by Littleton Waller Tazewell of Norfolk, whose fame included membership on the jury of famous men who tried Aaron Burr in the old Hall of the House of Delegates in 1807.

Speaker Watts was a hard worker and popular representative from Campbell in his one session in the house 1808-09, and as Senator representing Campbell, Buckingham, Bedford, Henry, Franklin, Patrick and Pittsylvania from 1809-21.

On December 5, 1816, he was chosen Speaker as successor to Senator William Green Poindexter. In 1838 on the formation of Roanoke County, "General" Watts, as he was familiarly greeted, was appointed Chairman of the Commission on the location of a Court House and the erection of same. He was happily married to Elizabeth Breckenridge and their children numbered ten.

WILLIAM COCKE HOLT

NORFOLK

Speaker, 1821-1832

HOLT, WILLIAM C.—A descendant of two families of prominence in the Norfolk area, followed in the political footsteps of his father, James Holt, a successful attorney, large owner of land in Norfolk City, Princess Anne and Surry Counties. He represented Norfolk, Princess Anne and Nansemond in the Senate 1776-79 and House 1803-04, and was appointed a Judge of the Court of Admiralty.

William C. entered the Norfolk political arena as a member of the House of Delegates 1807-13 and as a Senator 1817-32. The last ten years of his Senatorial service he was the speaker with unusual ability and universal popularity.

One of the noted parcels of land in the Holt family was the famous fishing ground "Hog Island" in the James, below Jamestown. Senators James and William C. Holt were kinsmen of a future distinguished Senator and Lieutenant Governor—the late Saxon W. Holt.

GEORGE COKE DROMGOOLE

BRUNSWICK

Speaker, 1832-1835

DROMGOOLE, GEORGE C.—"The Brunswick Lion," a colorful, powerful, influential, and a progressive figure in the early history of Brunswick County. He was a son of Reverend Edward Dromgoole, a noted Methodist minister in the Southern part of the County where the future Senator, Brigadier General and Congressman was born in 1797.

He was educated at William and Mary and the University of North Carolina, and became the Grand Master of Masons of Virginia in 1830-32.

In 1823 at the age of twenty-six, he was elected a member of the House of Delegates, serving until 1826 when he became Senator Dromgoole. He was a member of the Convention of 1829-30, and Speaker of the Senate 1832-35. On December 7, 1835, he became Congressman Dromgoole of Gholsonville, Brunswick County, serving until 1841, declining to be a candidate for the 1841-42 Session. He returned to Congress in 1843, remaining until his death April 27, 1847.

There is a legend down in Brunswick that he was approached as a possible running mate with William Henry Harrison in the presidential election of 1840, on the condition he would refrain from partaking of alcoholic beverages during the campaign and tenure of office, but he refused and lost the possibility of being President of the United States on the death of President Harrison one month after his inauguration.

He was interested in military affairs and rose to the rank of Brigadier General in the Virginia militia in 1838.

STAFFORD HENRY PARKER

CAROLINE

Speaker, 1835-1839

PARKER, STAFFORD H.—“Colonel,” as he was addressed by his constituents of Caroline, Essex, Spotsylvania and numberless Virginians who enjoyed his acquaintance in his half century of service as a legislator and Register of the Land Office. He was born at Port Royal, Caroline County. He enjoyed an extensive practice of law, was an avid reader, a pleasant conversationalist, and read French and Latin with great fluency. He entered political life as a member of the House of Delegates from Caroline in 1818 where his ability and popularity stepped him up to Senator in 1831.

In the upper branch his manifest interest and keen perception were honored by his being unanimously chosen speaker at the session December 7, 1835, where he served until 1839. On his retirement he became the Register of the Land Office which post he ably filled until ousted by a Federal Act of April 1869, which removed all State Officers.

The genial “Colonel,” father of three distinguished sons, died at his Richmond residence, July 15, 1871, at the age of 84. His youngest son, Captain (Dr.) William Watts Parker, organized an Artillery Company of boys 14 to 17 years of age who fought for the Confederacy until its guns could no longer be served. Following the surrender, Dr. Parker resumed his medical practice, making his calls on horseback with a saddlebag of medicine. His humanitarian activities were as notable as his work in medicine and his courageous leadership on the battlefield with his artillerist boys of Richmond and vicinity.

JOHN WHITE NASH

POWHATAN

Speaker, 1839-1842

NASH, JOHN W.—His renowned political and judicial fame rose from two different angles. The first, a few years after being admitted to the Bar from reading law 1812-13 in the office of John Love, an eminent barrister of Prince William County where Nash was born, he commenced the practice of his profession in Cumberland County. As an ardent supporter of President James Madison, he was a strong advocate of the United States, becoming embroiled in war with Great Britain, which necessarily placed him in opposition to the brilliant John Randolph of Roanoke.

In 1818-19 he served as a member of the House of Delegates from Cumberland and began his initial efforts against amending the Constitution of the State. He declined to run for re-election preferring to devote his attention to his law practice. The following year he became a resident of Amelia County and in 1826 with William B. Giles, was chosen member of the House of Delegates from Amelia on a platform vigorously opposing the suggested measure to change the Constitution in which they were instrumental in defeating the call for a Convention. The next year Delegate Giles became Governor William B. Giles for the usual term, at that time, of three years. Nash served for the next Session and again refused to run, but became involved in a fiery discussion in the press with William H. Fitzhugh of Fairfax—relative to the American Colonization Society of which Fitzhugh was an unqualified advocate and Vice President. The battle of words by these two outstanding writers attracted national attention. Delegate Nash wrote under the signature of Caius Gracchus, while Mr. Fitzhugh's pen name, in his advocacy of establishing the Colony in Liberia, was Opimius.

In 1830 Delegate Nash chose Powhatan County as his residence and was elected to the House in 1832 where he served with such outstanding accomplishments he was chosen Senator in '35 for the district composed of Powhatan, Amelia, Chesterfield and the City of Petersburg. His seven years' Senatorial career were climaxed by being elevated to Speaker from 1839-42, after which he voluntarily retired.

In 1848 he was appointed by Governor William Smith a mem-

ber of the General Court and the Judge of the Second Judicial Circuit which included seven counties and the City of Petersburg, and at the next session of the General Assembly his appointment was unanimously approved.

Judge Nash was rather below the middle stature and in early life was a little corpulent. In his manner he was courteous and respectful but frank and decided. His leading attributes of character were his unbending love of justice and his great devotion to truth which he often declared was the foundation of every other virtue.

In 1951 the Board of Supervisors of Powhatan erected a bronze plaque to the memory of John W. Nash and associate Supervisors, who built the Courthouse in 1848.

CHARLES ARTHUR HUNTON

FAUQUIER

Speaker, 1842-1843

HUNTON, CHARLES—The name Hunton for more than two and a half centuries has been prominent in the political, military, professional and social life of Virginia. The family was founded in Lancaster County, Virginia, in 1700, by Thomas Hunton, who married Mary Carrell; their family included William Hunton who settled in New Baltimore, Fauquier County, and married Judith Kirk. One of their sons, James Hunton, became a successful farmer and timberman of that section. He married Hannah Logan Brown of King George and they became parents of eight children. The eldest son, Charles Arthur, served as a member of the Senate representing the counties of Fauquier and Prince William from 1831 to 1843. On the convening of the Session, December 5, 1842, he was chosen Mr. Speaker where he served with distinction and a credit to the name of Hunton. He retired at the close of the Session March 28, 1843. In 1840 he was an influential factor in securing legislation that permitted the incorporation of Richmond College and its removal to "Columbia" at Ryland and Broad Streets. For his activities he was honored as a member of the Board of Trustees.

His brother, Major General Eppa Hunton, served as a member of the House of Delegates from Fauquier County for the Sessions of 1821-23. His great nephew Eppa Hunton, Jr., served as a member of the House of Delegates from Fauquier and Loudoun 1893-94.

EDWARD PEGRAM SCOTT, M.D.

DINWIDDIE

Speaker, 1843-1849

SCOTT, EDWARD P.—One of the few men whose resources permitted him to abandon his profession and serve his constituents of Dinwiddie, Brunswick and Greensville Counties for ten years. A possessor of considerable fame in the conflict of 1775-76, concluded his professional education as a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania as an M. D. He settled down in his native County of Dinwiddie, became interested in politics and in a few years he accepted the nomination as Senator representing Dinwiddie, Brunswick and Greensville Counties.

His intense interest, ability and other qualifications were recognized by his fellow Senators in 1843 and he was chosen Speaker and served until his retirement in 1849.

While serving as a Senator, he was honored with the rank of Brigadier General, Militia of Virginia, filling both offices with most complimentary credit.

Shattered in health and wealth, he retired to the home of his son-in-law, Rev. P. G. Roberts, in St. Louis, and his death is recorded as of May 16, 1876.

During the last Session over which he presided June 11 to August 17, 1849, the General Assembly upon its convening was confronted with a more serious problem than that of the raiding Tarleton and his British red coat cavalry, which forced the members to abandon Richmond hurriedly. This was a cholera epidemic that infested Tidewater and was fast approaching Richmond. Although they were in the midst of the preparation of a new code, they considered their health more essential than a new Code. By joint agreement a committee conducted a whirl-wind inquiry as to the most suitable location to continue their duties. The Committee recommended the Fauquier White Sulphur Springs in the County of that name. No time was lost in making preparations to proceed to this commodious resort where they remained until the completion of their Session, August 17th and the cholera epidemic cleared up later.

JOHN W. TYLER

PRINCE WILLIAM

Speaker, 1849-1850

TYLER, JOHN W.—Speaker Tyler began his political career as a member of the Volunteer Fire Department of Dumfries where he was born in 1795. He received his academic education at Dickinson College in Pennsylvania and studied law under Judge Dade of Dumfries. He was elevated from his volunteer fire service to become Commonwealth's Attorney of Prince William as a successor to Colonel John Gibson. His next round of political ladder climbing promoted him to a member of the House of Delegates, Session of 1830-31, and after fifteen years of devotion to his private practice he again returned to the Legislature for the Session of 1846-47.

In December, 1847, he was chosen Senator for the District composed of Prince William and Fauquier and in 1849 he was the choice of the members of the Senate as their presiding officer.

On January 29, 1850, he resigned to accept the Judgeship of the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit composed of Prince William, Fairfax and Alexandria Counties where he presided until his death in 1862.

General Eppa Hunton in his autobiography states that while he was teaching school at Buckland in Prince William, he taught the Tyler children and in turn he was instructed in law by Judge Tyler whom he succeeded as Commonwealth's Attorney of Prince William.

Judge Tyler was a distant relative of President John Tyler of Charles City, the tenth President of the United States.

WILLIAM H. DENNIS

CHARLOTTE

Speaker, 1850-1851

DENNIS, WILLIAM H.—A prosperous farmer and large farm owner of Charlotte, won his political fame in 1843 when he defeated the Whig candidate, Wyatt Cardwell, also of Charlotte, as Senator for the District composed of Charlotte, Lunenburg, Nottoway, and Prince Edward Counties. He gained considerable prestige as representative of Charlotte County in the House of Delegates, Session of 1842-43, and later as Senator. His ability and accomplishments were recognized by his fellow Senators when he was chosen as the last Senator to be honored with the title of Mr. Speaker for the Session of 1850-51. Effective January 12, 1852, the Lieutenant Governor became the presiding officer of the Senate with the title of Mr. President.

Prior to becoming embroiled in politics, the future Speaker on November 22, 1822 married Miss Ann M. Morton, daughter of William B. Morton, another large real estate owner of Charlotte.

III

LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS AND PRESIDENTS OF THE SENATE, 1852-1956

SHELTON FARRAR LEAKE, 1852-1856

ELISHA W. McCOMAS, 1856-

WILLIAM L. JACKSON, 1857-1860

ROBERT LATANE MONTAGUE, 1860-1863

SAMUEL PRICE, 1864-1865

LEOPOLD C. F. COWPER, 1865-1867

JOHN FRANCIS LEWIS, 1869-1870 and 1882-1886

JOHN LAWRENCE MARYE, JR., 1870-1873

ROBERT ENOCH WITHERS, 1874-1875

HENRY W. THOMAS, 1875-1878

Also President Pro Tempore 1871-1875

JAMES ALEXANDER WALKER, 1878-1882

JOHN E. MASSEY, 1886-1890

JAMES HOGE TYLER, 1890-1894

ROBERT CRAIG KENT, 1894-1898

EDWARD ECHOLS, 1898-1902

Also President Pro Tempore, 1908-1914

JOSEPH EDWARD WILLARD, 1902-1906

JAMES TAYLOR ELLYSON, 1906-1918

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BUCHANAN, 1918-1922

JUNIUS EDGAR WEST, 1922-1930

JAMES HUBERT PRICE, 1930-1938

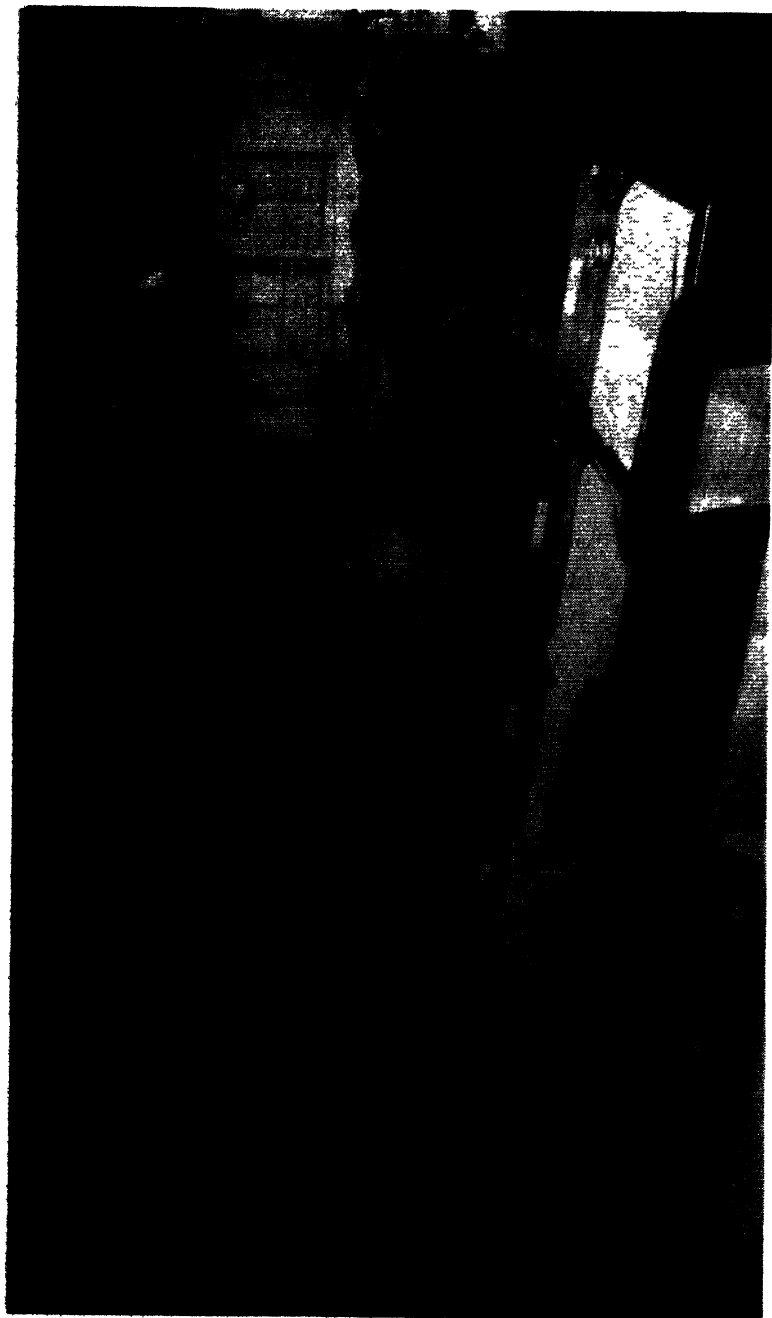
SAXON W. HOLT, 1938-1940

Also President Pro Tempore 1920-1937

WILLIAM MUNFORD TUCK, 1942-1946

LEWIS PRESTON COLLINS, II, 1946-1952

A. E. S. STEPHENS, 1952-



Senate Chamber in the Jefferson Capitol. *Circa 1890.*

SHELTON FARRAR LEAKE

ALBEMARLE

Lieutenant Governor, 1852-1856

LEAKE, SHELTON F.—First Lieutenant Governor chosen by popular vote and the first presiding officer of the Senate to be addressed as "Mr. President."

He was born at Hillsboro, Albemarle County, November 30, 1812, and chose law as his means of livelihood, opening his office in Charlottesville in 1835, shortly after being admitted to practice.

He became a member of the House of Delegates session 1842-43, member of Congress sessions of 1845-47, and then resumed the practice of his profession. He was chosen Lieutenant Governor in 1851 on the Democratic ticket with Joseph Johnson of Harrison County (now West Virginia).

Lieutenant Governor Leake presided with ability, firmness and popularity. He was the unsuccessful candidate for Governor in 1855 when Henry A. Wise of Accomac received the Democratic nomination.

He was again returned to Congress from 1859 to 1861, after which he again returned to his law practice and farm, and lived to the age of 72, his death occurring March 4, 1884.

ELISHA W. McCOMAS

CABELL

Lieutenant Governor, 1856-1857

McCOMAS, ELISHA W.—Organized a company of volunteers in Western Virginia and served as captain during the war with Mexico. Member of the Constitutional Convention of 1850-51, as one of the three representatives of the Counties of Cabell, Mason, Putnam, Wayne, Boone, Wyoming and Logan, which became part of West Virginia when it was admitted to the Union January 20, 1863. He represented Cabell County in the House of Delegates, sessions of 1809 to 1822, 1825 to 1827, 1832 and 1833. Captain McComas had the honor of being the second Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate chosen by the people on the Democratic ticket with Governor Henry A. Wise of Accomac in 1856. This election gave the Whigs who were also styled the "Americans" and "Know Nothing Party," their second heavy defeat.

President McComas conducted his dual duties with ability and popularity. He resigned just prior to the session of 1857 and moved to Kansas and died at Fort Scott.

One of his brothers was killed while serving in the Confederate Army, another brother served in the Federal Army. The mining town of McComas in Mercer County was named in honor of the McComas family who were prominent and large owners of mining property in that area.

WILLIAM L. JACKSON

WOOD

Lieutenant Governor, 1857-1859

JACKSON, WILLIAM L.—Brigadier General, Cavalry, C. S. A., Circuit Judge at Parkersburg in 1856. He was unanimously chosen by the Legislature as Lieutenant Governor for the unexpired term upon the resignation of Lieutenant Governor Elisha W. McComas. He presided over the Senate with dignity and popularity. At the reception that followed the unveiling of the Washington Monument in Capitol Square, February 22, 1858, attended by the greatest crowd in Richmond history up to that time, in spite of rain, snow and mud. Lieutenant Governor Jackson was the toastmaster for Governor Wise. The brilliant affair was held in the new Custom House which had just been completed.

His rise in the Confederate service was rapid and he established a most commendable record as an officer.

He was a cousin of General Thomas Jonathan (Stonewall) Jackson.

ROBERT LATANE MONTAGUE

MIDDLESEX

Lieutenant Governor, 1860-1863

MONTAGUE, ROBERT L.—Father of Andrew Jackson Montague, Governor of Virginia 1902-06, and Congressman Third Congressional District March 4th, 1913 to his death January 24, 1937.

Few men in Virginia have enjoyed more popularity and possessed more oratorical qualifications than the eminent jurist and his son, Andrew Jackson. The father was born at Ellaslee, Middlesex County, May 22, 1919. After mastering the rudiments of the three "R's" at Fleetwood Academy in King and Queen County, he clerked in the village store and later read law in the office of Judge Lomax in Fredericksburg.

In 1841 he entered William and Mary and graduated July 2, 1842. His debut as an orator was recognized in 1844 when he championed the candidacy of James Knox Polk for President and George M. Dallas for Vice President on the Democratic ticket versus Henry Clay and Theo. Frelinghuysen, candidates of the Whigs. The youthful orator stumped the eastern section of the State with a successful victory for the Democrats. Thereafter he was in constant demand as a political speaker. The impression he made served him well in his election as Commonwealth's Attorney for several years and as a member of the House of Delegates from Middlesex and Mathews Counties in 1850-51.

In 1859 he was chosen as the running mate of John Letcher on the Democratic ticket for Governor, with Montague running far in the lead of his associates. He was an outstanding member of the Convention of 1861 and on the resignation of John Janney as president, he was chosen his successor on November 6. At the same time he was Chairman of the Committee that presented the ordinance for Virginia to secede from the Union; thus he had the honor of being the presiding officer of two deliberative bodies at the same time.

In 1874 he returned to the House of Delegates from Middlesex although the Republican vote was an important factor in the political affairs of his native county.

In 1875 he was chosen Judge of the Eighth Judicial Circuit where he served with credit until his death March 2, 1880.

Judge Montague as a practitioner was adroit, as an orator and debater he was a star of the first magnitude. Bold and at times almost violent in advocacy of his convictions, he was always courteous in his deportment to his opponent. He was as active and as popular in the Baptist denomination as he was on the political hustings and frequently served as Moderator and Chairman of various Committees of the Baptist Association.

SAMUEL PRICE
GREENBRIER COUNTY

Lieutenant Governor, 1864-1865

PRICE, SAMUEL—The last Lieutenant Governor to serve before Virginia fell under Federal rule, established quite a novel record during his political career.

Born in Fauquier County, July 28, 1805, his parents shortly moved to Preston, then to Nicholas County, and thence to Kentucky. He was graduated in law in 1827 and returned to Virginia becoming Deputy Marshal and Census Supervisor in 1828. He was admitted to the Bar in 1832 and became prosecuting attorney for Nicholas and Braxton Counties after serving as Clerk of Nicholas County in 1831.

In 1834 he was chosen a member of the House of Delegates representing Fayette and Nicholas Counties serving through the session of 1836. He represented Greenbrier County in the House from 1847 to 1850, and was Greenbrier County's member of the Constitution Conventions of 1850-51 and 1861. He is recorded as voting against Virginia's seceding from the Union. He was chosen Lieutenant Governor and became President of the Senate January 6, 1864, serving until December 4, 1865.

He was elected a Circuit Judge in 1865 but declined because he could not take the test oath.

In 1866 he became a director of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway.

Appointed U. S. Senator on December 4, 1876 to serve the unexpired term of Senator Allen T. Caperton of West Virginia, Senator Price served in this office until his death January 31, 1877.

He was six feet in height, a ruling elder of the Presbyterian Church, simple in tastes, honest in his dealing and thinking, not aggressive but prudent rather than timid, generous, straight thinking, affectionate—a successful leader and a proud possessor of a fine wife and nine children.

LEOPOLD C. F. COWPER

NORFOLK COUNTY

Lieutenant Governor, 1865-1867

COWPER, LEOPOLD, C. F.—Captain Cowper, who most likely earned his captaincy as did his father as a seafaring operator, was a graduate of law and a large property owner in Norfolk County. He served as a member of the House of Delegates, Norfolk County 1847-49, and was chosen Lieutenant Governor under the Federal rule of operating the former State of Virginia. He presided over the three sessions as President of the Senate from December 4, 1865 to April 29, 1867.

Lieutenant Cowper was a son of Captain William Cowper, who served in the Navy during the Revolution. He was a bachelor, but upon the death of a relative in the west he is credited with bringing the deceased relative's family to Virginia, educating them and leaving a considerable estate.

JOHN FRANCIS LEWIS

ROCKINGHAM

Lieutenant Governor, 1869-1870 and 1882-1886

LEWIS, JOHN FRANCIS.—Chosen twice Lieutenant Governor with twelve years intervening, was born at Lynwood, Rockingham County, March 1, 1818. His education was acquired at the "Old Field School" after which he became a farmer.

He was a member of the secession convention of 1861 but refused to sign the ordinance of Secession. He was chosen Lieutenant Governor on the True Republican Ticket and served with Gilbert C. Walker, the provisional Governor from September 1869 to January 1, 1870.

On the readmission of Virginia to the Union, he was elected to the United States Senate serving from January 26, 1870 to March 3, 1875, when he declined to be a candidate for re-election.

President Hayes appointed him Marshal for the Western District of Virginia April 11, 1878, in which office he served until March 1, 1882, when he resigned to accept again the office of Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate on the Readjuster Ticket with Colonel William E. Cameron as Governor. After this four year term he resumed farming at Lynwood, his birthplace, until his death in 1895.

JOHN LAWRENCE MARYE, JR.

SPOTSYLVANIA

Lieutenant Governor, 1870-1873

MARYE, JOHN L., JR.—The second Lieutenant Governor in the first thirty days of the administration of Governor Gilbert C. Walker, the first Governor of Virginia after Virginia returned to the Union. He succeeded John F. Lewis who was quickly advanced from Lieutenant Governor to United States Senator January 26, 1870.

Lieutenant Governor Marye's boyhood days were spent at "Brompton Gates," later known as "Marye's Heights," the scene of the famous battle of December 13, 1862. Marye became a prominent attorney in the Fredericksburg area and the house in which he resided shortly after his marriage, still stands at 1111 Princess Anne Street.

John L. Marye, Jr.'s father was one of the original stockholders and organizers of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad that operated the first train out of Richmond on its initial run of twenty miles north on Saturday, Feb. 16, 1836. Forty years later, Lieutenant Governor John L. Marye, Jr., on behalf of Governor Walker, was one of a dozen speakers to an audience of several thousand who welcomed the first train of coal into Richmond, February 13, 1873 over the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad.

Lieutenant Governor Marye was a delegate at large from Virginia to the National Convention in Baltimore in July, 1872 for the nomination of President. The Marye contingent known as the Liberals, were for Horace Greeley and Gratz Brown, while the Radicals of Washington were for the winners, General U. S. Grant and Henry Wilson.

Marye was one of the three members who represented Caroline, King George and Spotsylvania Counties in the Convention of 1867-68 and was the outspoken member of the Virginia Committee who conferred with President Grant and appeared before the Senate Judiciary Committee and Reconstruction Committee of the House of Representatives. His father, John L. Sr., was a member of the Secession Convention of 1861 and opposed secession until President Lincoln called for volunteer troops when he promptly signed the ordinance.

ROBERT ENOCH WITHERS, M.D.

CAMPBELL

Lieutenant Governor, 1874-1875

WITHERS, ROBERT ENOCH, M.D.—He declined to be a candidate for Governor on the Conservative ticket in 1869 which most likely resulted in his being chosen Lieutenant Governor, effective Jan. 1, 1874, and U. S. Senator effective March 4, 1875.

Colonel Withers, C.S.A., was born in Campbell County, September 1821 and was a medical graduate of the University of Virginia in 1841. He began the practice of his profession in his home county but moved to Danville in 1858. On Virginia's call for defenders of States' Rights in 1861, he offered his services and was commissioned a Major and shortly advanced to Colonel of the Eighteenth Division of Infantry where he served until he was discharged for a multiplicity of wounds after which he was assigned as inspector and recruiting officer at Danville.

In 1866 he located in Lynchburg and became owner and editor of the Lynchburg News, a daily newspaper favoring the Conservative party. He was nominated in 1869 as the candidate for Governor by the Conservative Convention, which he declined on the grounds he deemed General Gilbert C. Walker of the Liberal Republican Party as being better qualified for Chief Executive of the State.

He was chosen a Democratic elector on the Greeley-Brown ticket in 1872 and Lieutenant Governor on the Democratic ticket of 1873. Fifteen months after he was administered the oaths of office as Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate, he was elected U. S. Senator as successor to John F. Lewis, effective March 4, 1875 and served until March 4, 1881, when he was succeeded by General William Mahone, C.S.A.

On April 28, 1885, he was appointed by President Cleveland Consul to Hong Kong, China, where he served with marked ability until his resignation in 1889. He returned to Wytheville and resumed his practice of medicine until his death at "Ingleside" September 21, 1907.

HENRY WIRTZ THOMAS

FAIRFAX

President Pro Tempore, 1871-1875

Lieutenant Governor, 1875-1878

THOMAS, HENRY W.—Appointed in April 1866 by federal authorities as Judge of the Ninth Circuit Court of Arbitration and Conciliation (Civil Rights Bill) with jurisdiction except criminal cases and title to property. Thomas was highly commended by Jefferson Davis in his history of "The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government" for refusing on several occasions to carry out the biddings of Washington authorities. The learned and fearless jurist remained on the bench until Virginia returned to the Union and appointed its own Judges.

The jovial pride and joy of the rank and file of the citizens of the Ninth Circuit, which embraced Fairfax, Fauquier, Prince William and Alexandria Counties, lived an eventful and colorful life of nearly four score years. He was born near Leesburg in Fauquier County, October 20, 1812. His academic education was acquired in the local school and in Washington where he walked to and from Leesburg, spending his idle school hours listening to the debates of Webster, Calhoun, Hayne, Clay and other great orators in the Senate. He read law in the office of Alexander Henderson and experienced little trouble in being certified to practice his chosen profession.

Before opening his office, he taught school for several terms. One day while visiting in Fairfax, he accepted a fee of \$500 to represent four young citizens who had been arrested for horse racing on Sunday. On securing acquittal for his clients, he received such wide commendation for the masterful presentation of his case he decided to cast his lot as a citizen of Fairfax.

At the age of 26 he was chosen Commonwealth's Attorney, which was followed by being elected as a "Whig" to the House of Delegates, Sessions of 1841-42 and 1847-49. He had earlier been chosen Major of the local militia and was proud of the title of Major.

In 1839 he married Miss Julia M. Jackson, sister of Captain James Jackson, the first martyr of the "Lost Cause." He ably served as a member of the Senate from 1850-63 as representative from Fair-

fax and Alexandria Counties and from 1871-75 with the added territory of Loudoun and Prince William Counties.

Prior to the war he suffered defeat for a Congressional seat twice. He vigorously opposed secession and was most outspoken "that the war could have been averted." At the outbreak he moved his family to Richmond and offered his service to President Davis in any capacity that he could be useful. Shortly afterwards he was chosen Second Auditor and he earnestly applied his ability in seeking the most effective manner to bring the war to a successful termination. After the war he bade his Whig friends farewell and lined up with the Republican Party.

On April 5, 1865, on the visit of President Lincoln to Richmond, he was appointed one of a committee of three to wait on the President and urge the importance of re-establishing civil government in Virginia. President Lincoln listened attentively to the plan as outlined by Judge Thomas and his associates and at the time spoke favorably of the idea.

On his return to Washington, President Lincoln after several conferences reversed his previous tacit approval. A short time afterward President Lincoln conferred in Washington with Judge Thomas and Hon. Joseph Segar of Hampton; the outcome of this conference is not recorded in Judge Thomas' diary but he was appointed Judge of the Ninth Circuit for Virginia.

In 1871 he lost out again in a convention fight for Congress by one vote. His successful opponent was Major Elliott Muse Braxton, C.S.A., a former Senator, 1851-55. On the election of Colonel Robert E. Withers to the U. S. Senate, Judge Thomas was chosen his successor as Lieutenant Governor. His popularity, historical and theoretical knowledge and fair-mindedness earned for him on his retirement an engraved gold-headed cane.

He died May 18, 1890 in his 78th year.

JAMES ALEXANDER WALKER

PULASKI

Lieutenant Governor, 1878-1882

WALKER, JAMES A.—Brigadier General, C. S. A., experienced a political life as colorful and exciting as his four years of distinguished service in defense of his State. He had the honor of being the only one of the five Walkers who wore the epaulets of a Brigadier or Major General, to be present at Appomattox on Sunday, April 9, 1865, the saddest day in the history of Virginia. This outstanding soldier and statesman was born in Augusta County August 27, 1832, and was a graduate of Virginia Military Institute and the University of Virginia.

In 1856 he began the practice of law in Pulaski and was shortly chosen Commonwealth Attorney, which office he was filling most creditably when Virginia called for her able sons to defend the State from invasion. He was chosen Captain of the Pulaski Guards which was mustered into service as a unit of the Stonewall Brigade. His promotions were rapid, becoming the Colonel of the Stonewall Brigade and later successor to Brigadier Generals Jubal Anderson Early and Richard Stoddard Ewell, the latter having been captured and made a prisoner.

On his return to Pulaski, he was chosen a member of the House of Delegates for the session of 1871-72. He was elected Lieutenant Governor for the four year term 1878-82, with Frederick W. M. Holliday as Chief Executive. He remained an ardent Democrat until 1893 when he became a rampant Republican and was elected to Congress for the two periods 1895 to 1899. The Democrats strengthened their fences in 1898 and Judge William F. Rhea redeemed the Ninth District.

General Walker was the orator at the unveiling of the monument on May 30, 1892, at Richmond to General Ambrose Powell (A. P.) Hill, whose remains rest beneath the monument, which is in sight of the spot where he received his commission as Brigadier General of the Light Infantry, which left a record unsurpassed in the annals of war.

He died at Wytheville October 21, 1901.

JOHN E. MASSEY

ALBEMARLE

Lieutenant Governor, 1886-1890

MASSEY, JOHN E.—Known state-wide as “Parson Massey” because of his ecclesiastical activities and politically famous as one of the organizers of the Readjuster Party in Richmond Feb. 25, 26, 1879. The basis of the formation of this party was the pronounced dissent with the manner in which the State debt was being handled under the “Funders Act.”

The “Parson” who was a clerk in the second auditor’s office carried his criticism to his neighbors in Albemarle. He was chosen a member of the House of Delegates in 1874 and for four years he fought continuously for debt policies he believed essential for the preservation of Virginia’s financial stability.

General William Mahone, C.S.A., the diminutive, daring and dynamic Confederate leader of the Battle of the Crater, who had been chosen U. S. Senator by the Readjuster controlled legislature over the veteran Colonel Robert E. Withers of Wytheville, assumed the titular head of the Readjusters and devoted more time on Capitol Hill, Richmond, than Capitol Hill, Washington.

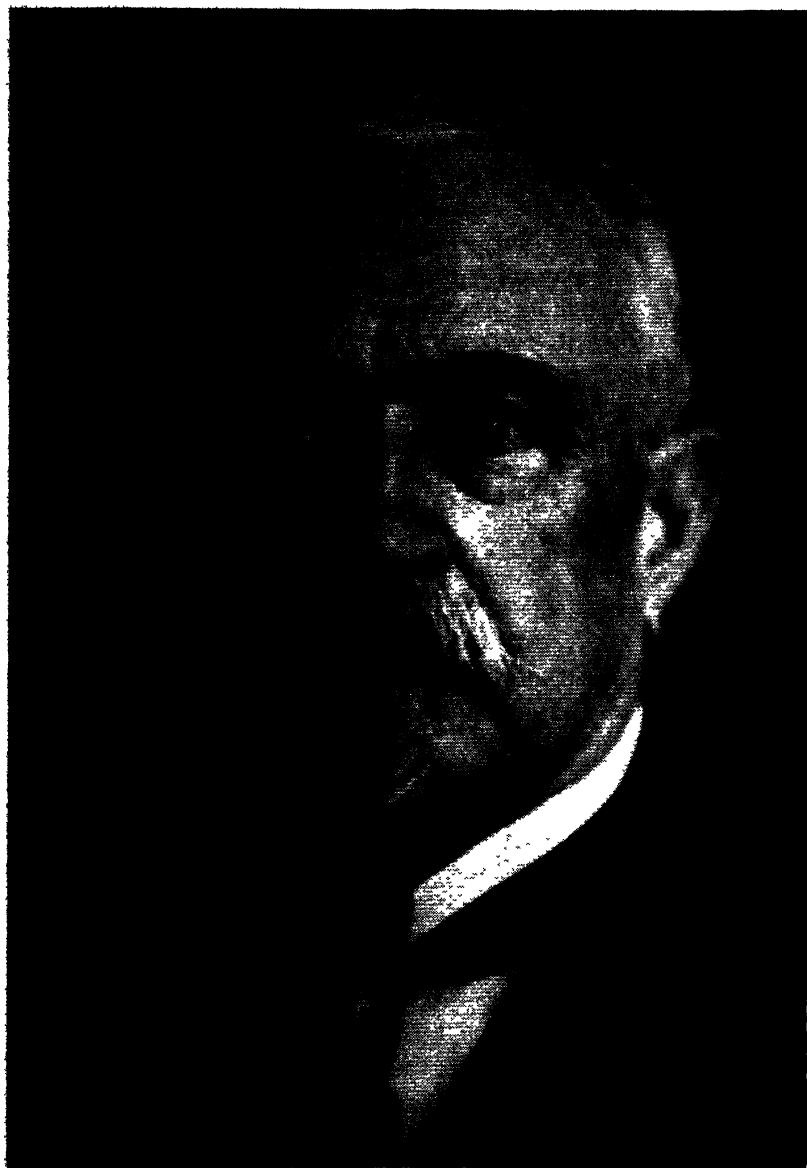
The elevation of the “Parson” and the descent of General Mahone began in the Readjusters Convention of 1881 when Mahone, after virtually promising his influence to Massey, gave preference to Colonel William Ewart Cameron of Petersburg, his neighbor. Other steps that assisted in the tottering of the Readjusters were the election to the United States Senate of State Senator Harrison H. Riddleberger of Woodstock over John W. Johnston of Abingdon in 1882 and the fight for Congressman at large between John E. Massey as the candidate of the Independent Democrats and John S. Wise of the Readjuster-Republican combination. A bitter fight ensued and months after court and congressional hearings, Wise was seated.

In 1885 the Democrats presented their first State ticket, with Major General Fitzhugh Lee for Governor and John E. Massey for Lieutenant Governor. Massey as the President of the Senate formed a working agreement with four Readjuster stalwarts who were fast becoming dissatisfied with the Mahone domination of the Legislature, thus giving the former minority members of the Senate a working majority. The Big Four, as they were called, consisted of

Samuel H. Newberry of Bland, Peyton G. Hale of Grayson, A. M. Lybrook of Patrick and B. F. Williams of Nottoway. The "Big Four" declined to be pledge-bound and their refusal to support Mahone's legislative rule or ruin policies constitutes one of the brightest spots in the period of misrule to which Virginia was subjected.

The accomplishments under the leadership of Lieutenant Governor Massey include the repeal of many measures driven through the Legislature and Congress by Senator Riddleberger who was replaced as U. S. Senator by John S. Barbour. Mahone, as U. S. Senator, was replaced by John W. Daniel.

Massey, during his legislative period, possessed an unusual gift of quick repartee and sarcasm unsurpassed by any opponent of that era. His manner of presentation of a subject was so able and adroit that few political opponents cared to debate with him. The exit of Senator Mahone was accompanied by the passing of the Richmond Whig, the Republican organ in Virginia for years.



JAMES HOGE TYLER

JAMES HOGE TYLER

PULASKI

Lieutenant Governor, 1890-1894

TYLER, JAMES HOGE—The only private with four years service in the Confederate Army to become the Chief Executive of the State on his third attempt.

Born on the farm of his father, George Tyler of Blenheim, Caroline County, who served in the House of Delegates 1859-63, his early education was acquired at Schooleys Academy and Minor's School in Albemarle.

Upon the death of his mother, who was a daughter of General Hoge of Pulaski, he resided with his grandfather until the voice of his State called him to take up arms in her defense. He endured the hardships of a private in the ranks the long four years until he was paroled at Appomattox.

Returning to Pulaski, he began the life of a farmer and soon became interested in politics. In 1877 he was chosen Senator for the Counties of Pulaski, Giles, Bland and Tazewell. In 1889 he was chosen Lieutenant Governor on the Democratic ticket with Captain Philip Watkins McKinney. He presided over the Senate as President of that body with dignity and popularity that resulted in his being chosen Chief Executive for the term 1898-1902, which were four years of strenuous activities. He was successful in securing legislation resulting in the creation of the Bureau of Labor, the conditional pardon system, a revamping of the Department of Agriculture and additional buildings at the Southwestern State Hospital and V. P. I.

His greatest accomplishment was probably his call on April 25, 1898, for Virginians to volunteer for service in the Spanish American War. Several thousand responded and were encamped on the present site of the Division of Motor Vehicles, which was designated as Fort Lee, the same location where many recruits of the War between the States received their mail.

Governor Tyler was the last Confederate Veteran of four years service to be chosen the Chief Executive of Virginia.

ROBERT CRAIG KENT

WYTHE

Lieutenant Governor, 1894-1898

KENT, ROBERT CRAIG—Born in Wythe County November 28, 1828, was the youngest member of the Constitutional Convention of February 13 to December 6, 1861. His early education was acquired at home; afterwards he entered Georgetown College and later Princeton where he received his A.B. degree.

To acquaint himself with local conditions before entering upon the practice of his profession, he read law in the office of Judge Andrew Fulton in Wytheville, hanging out his shingle in 1853.

He became an able debater and was a consistent supporter of Virginia seceding from the Union. His excellent record attained in the convention was rewarded by his election to the post of Commonwealth's Attorney for two terms. His outstanding service as the County's aggressive legal officer was recognized by his being elected a member of the House of Delegates for two sessions.

In 1893 he was the Democrats' successful candidate for Lieutenant Governor on the ticket with Colonel Charles T. O'Ferrall, C.S.A., for Governor and R. Taylor Scott for Attorney General.

As President of the Senate he is credited as being an excellent presiding officer and his ability and courteous manner resulted in making of many friendships that endured until his death in Wytheville, April 30, 1905.

EDWARD ECHOLS

STAUNTON

Lieutenant Governor, 1898-1902

President Pro Tempore, 1908-1914

ECHOLS, EDWARD—Achieved an outstanding record as a citizen, financier, Lieutenant Governor and member of the House of Delegates and Senate.

Born in Union County (now West Virginia) September 2, 1849, he was the son of Brigadier General John Echols, C.S.A., who was a member of the House of Delegates prior to and after the conflict between the States and a member of the Convention of 1861. His mother was Mary Jane Caperton, a sister of Allen Caperton, United States Senator of West Virginia.

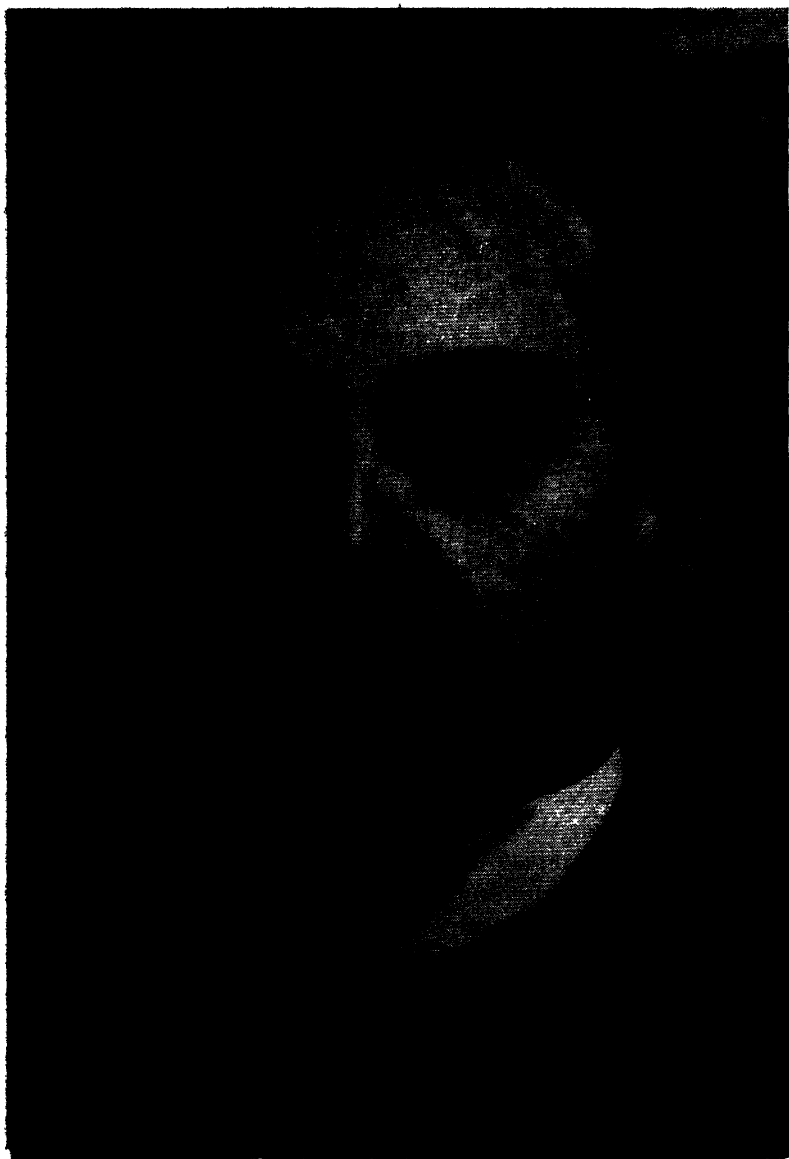
Edward Echols inherited from his father personality, suavity and eloquence and from his mother tender refinement and charming simplicity of character. On the completion of his studies at the University of Virginia, where he achieved honors as a most forceful and convincing orator and debater, he opened his law office in his father's adopted City of Staunton.

In 1880 he was chosen Commonwealth's Attorney and in four years he was the representative of Augusta County and the City of Staunton in the House of Delegates where he served most capably. His accomplishments in the House were rewarded by his being chosen Senator for the Sessions 1889-1896.

Feeling that his private affairs and law practice required more of his time, he gracefully stepped out of public life and was soon chosen the first Vice President of the National Valley Bank.

Responding to the call from all parts of the State, he became the successful running mate for Lieutenant Governor on the Democratic ticket with James Hoge Tyler (1898-1902).

He returned to the floor of the Senate in 1906 and was chosen Chairman of the Committee of Finance and Tax Study Commission. In 1908 he was unanimously honored as President Pro Tempore where his ability and cordiality endeared him to his colleagues. He retired at the close of the session March 20, 1914, and died at his home in Staunton December 19, 1914.



EDWARD ECHOLS

JOSEPH EDWARD WILLARD

FAIRFAX

Lieutenant Governor, 1902-1906

WILLARD, JOSEPH E.—Captain U. S. A., last Minister and the first Ambassador to Spain 1913-21. At the outbreak of the Spanish American War, he organized and equipped at his own expense an infantry company that chose him captain, volunteered their services and were mustered into the U. S. Army, and saw real service in the war that gave Cuba its independence from Spain.

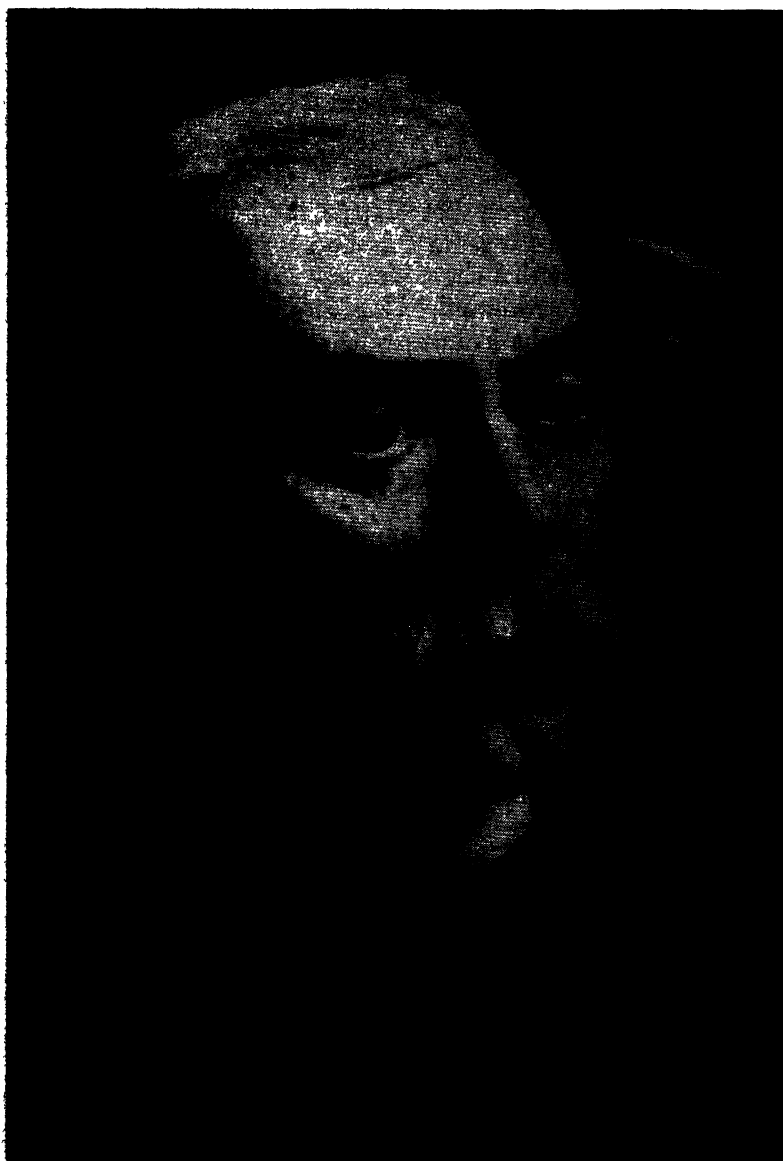
In 1901 Captain Willard was the choice of the anti-machine for Lieutenant Governor with Andrew Jackson Montague for Governor and William A. Anderson for Attorney General at an exciting and warmly contested convention at Norfolk. Their election in November was by a vast majority. An unparalleled feature in their inaugural ceremonies was the oath of office administered by Judge Keith, witnessed by the members of the noted Constitutional Convention of 1901-02, with the members of the General Assembly and a vast assemblage in attendance.

Lieutenant Governor Willard presided over the sessions of the Senate from 1902 until he was appointed a member of the Corporation Commission on September 30, 1905, as successor to Henry Fairfax, also of Fairfax County. His ability, and courteous manner earned him the esteem of the members of the Senate.

During his residence in Richmond he became identified with a number of commercial enterprises. He was the president, promoter and the only stockholder in the Richmond and Rappahannock Railroad Company, the original plans of which contemplated standard railroad construction from Richmond to Washington with a "Y" extension to Urbanna as its deep water terminus. The northern terminus was constructed as far as Ashland, and afterwards it became an electric line. The deep water terminus was halted at the banks of the Pamunkey River due to the scarcity of material.

Captain Willard was an early stockholder of the Bank of Commerce and Trusts and served for three years as president, resigning to accept the ambassadorship to Spain.

He died in Washington in 1924 where he was the main stockholder of the Willard Hotel.



JAMES TAYLOR ELLYSON

JAMES TAYLOR ELLYSON

CITY OF RICHMOND

Lieutenant Governor, 1906-1918

ELLYSON, J. TAYLOR—The first Lieutenant Governor of Virginia to be chosen for three consecutive terms, was born in Richmond May 20, 1847, and lived his threescore and two years within a few blocks of where he first saw the light of day. He was a son of Henry K. Ellyson, first President of the Richmond School Board, co-owner of the Richmond Dispatch, member House of Delegates. The legality of whose election as Mayor of Richmond by the City Council was to be finally decided April 27, 1870 by the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia. When an anxious crowd, eager to hear the Court's decision, overtaxed the capacity of the gallery of the Supreme Court in the Capitol, caused it to collapse, resulting in the death of 62 and injury to 251. Among those killed were men of prominence, legislators and state officials. The wounded included Mayor-elect Henry K. Ellyson and George Chahoon, a Federal appointed Mayor, his contesting opponent. "J. Taylor," as he was frequently addressed by his associates, was educated in the schools of Richmond and Hampden-Sydney. While in attendance at the latter, he left and enlisted in the Second Company of Richmond Howitzers in 1861 and rendered four years of service.

In the same company with him was another future Mayor of Richmond, Captain Carlton McCarthy, both of whom were at the surrender at Appomattox and on their return to their native city, became active in the rebuilding of the destroyed Capitol of the Confederacy.

Private Ellyson was chosen a member of the City Council in 1878 and president of that body 1882-84 but declined to be a candidate for re-election. He shortly announced his candidacy as one of the two Senators to represent Richmond and Henrico County, where he served with creditable ability until he was chosen Mayor of Richmond in 1888, serving until 1894.

In 1897 he was the unsuccessful candidate for Governor at the Convention held in Roanoke, J. Hoge Tyler being the Democratic choice.

In 1905 in one of the hottest campaigns on record he was chosen

Lieutenant Governor on the ticket with Claude A. Swanson as choice for Governor.

On the resignation of Colonel Joseph E. Willard, January 11, 1906, as Lieutenant Governor, to accept the appointment as member of the Corporation Commission, Mr. Ellyson was chosen Lieutenant Governor by the Legislature and at once entered upon his duties as President of the Senate, serving until 1918 under three successive Governors.

In 1917, again desirous of being the Chief Executive, he entered a spirited three-contestant race for the Governorship, his opponents being former Attorney General John Garland Pollard, and Westmoreland Davis, a newcomer in the ranks of the Democratic Party. Ellyson and Pollard both were identified with Richmond, Baptist and Prohibition forces, while Davis, a farmer, ran with a platform of better roads, schools, less taxes, and more efficiency in the operation of the State Government, and was an easy winner. The three termer Lieutenant Governor was a prominent factor in the political life of Virginia for forty years, twenty-five of which he served as Chairman of the Democratic Committee.

Not only was he a power in the political arena, but in the field of education and religion his dominating influence was felt. He was a trustee of Richmond College for many years; he served as Vice President of the Southern Baptist Association for 34 years and a score of years as the executive head of the educational board of the General Baptist Association. He was active in the building and equipping of the Battle Abbey.

Thus in the span of his life he crowded activities, the scope of which falls to the lot of few men, but never were his duties so arduous or exacting that he had not time to devote himself to acts of charity and answer the numerous calls made on him by his fellow man.

He was a Virginian by birth and to the manor born. He passed on at his residence March 18, 1919.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BUCHANAN

SMYTH COUNTY

Lieutenant Governor, 1918-1922

BUCHANAN, B. FRANK—The only presiding officer during the one hundred and eighty years of the continuous existence of the oldest legislative body of the Western Hemisphere that had the honor of being addressed as Mr. President by his son, John Preston Buchanan, his law partner and Senate successor from the same district, so ably represented previously by his father.

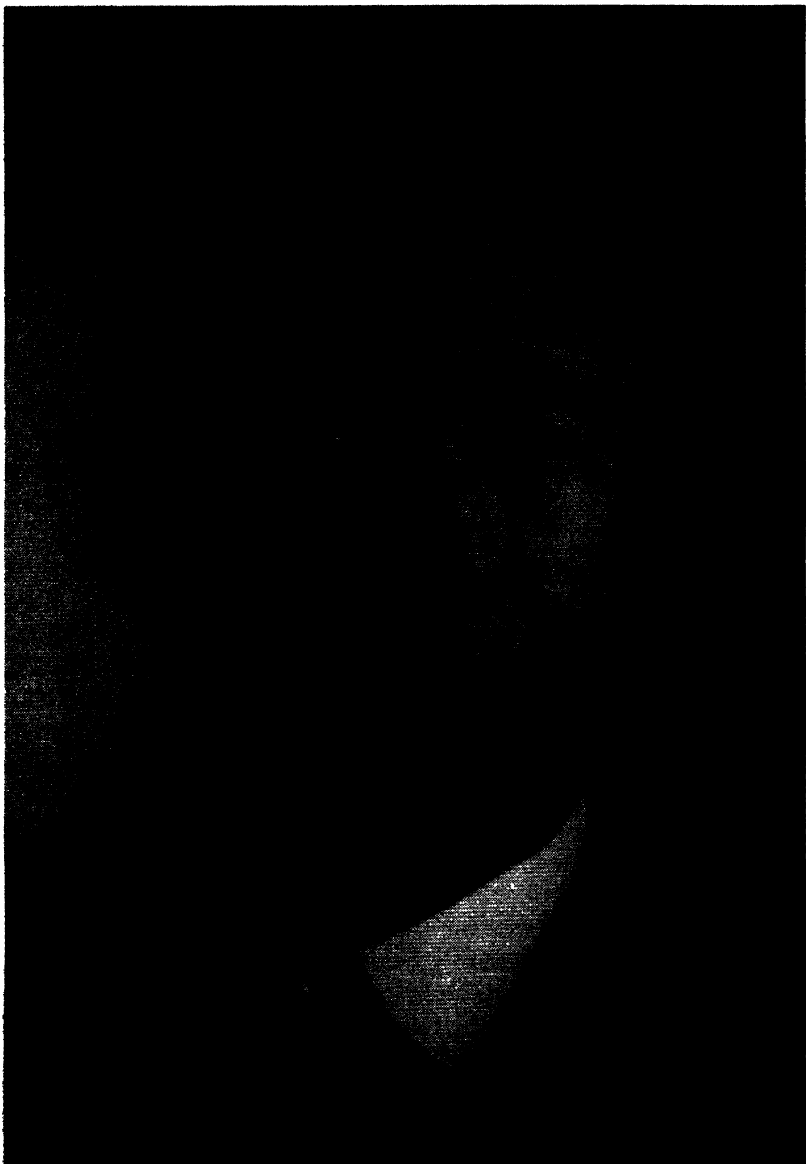
B. Frank Buchanan was born in his beloved Smyth County at Rich Valley near Marion, October 4, 1852, and his early studies of the three "R's" were in the local school. On leaving home to enter the University of Virginia, he wore a homespun, homemade suit, the accomplishment of his devoted stepmother, who remarked with a tear in her eye and a lump in her throat, "O, Frank, I am sorry the finances of the family do not permit the purchase of a store suit for you to go off in, and I am afraid you will be ashamed of the way your clothes look." His reply was characteristic of the tall, stately youth with a beaming countenance, whose determination was to make a success of his life. "Mother Nan, I am not going to the University of Virginia to be a dandy, I am going there to study law."

On his return to Marion, having won his degree with praise and membership in Phi Beta Kappa, with the great traditions inherited from his kinsman, Judge John A. Buchanan, he began the practice of his profession in Rich Valley from mountain to mountain.

He was chosen Senator for the Sessions 1893 to 1896 when his modest demeanor, gentlemanly bearing, his comprehensive grasp of public questions, his superb ability won the respect and esteem of his colleagues and the public at large. He returned to the Senate for the Sessions of 1912-1914.

He was a delegate to the Democratic Convention in Baltimore in 1912 where his striking figure, affability and his soundness of judgment resulted in his appointment as general counsel for the Comptroller of the Currency, 1914-22.

In 1918-22 as Lieutenant Governor he was a member in 1921 of the Commission that presented to the United Governments of Great Britain and Ireland a replica of the Houdon Statue of



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BUCHANAN

George Washington and he often related the incident of the trip that pleased him the most, the remark of Queen Mary, "When I think of America, Mr. Buchanan, I always think of you all Virginians first."

Lieutenant Governor Buchanan could have had the Democratic nomination for Governor three times, and had he yielded to the state-wide appeal, it is not likely he would have encountered serious opposition due to the high esteem in which he was held.

Senator Buchanan was a close friend and valued associate of successive governors who relied on his cooperation to enable them to serve the state to the best advantage. He possessed a knowledge of the state government which was equalled by few and when his towering figure arose on the floor of the Senate or a committee room to explain or defend a measure, his colleagues listened with close attention, for he was recognized as a student of public affairs of his day. In 1924 he again yielded to the wishes of his constituents and re-entered the Senate for the third time.

In the zenith of his career, after an illness of several weeks, although he felt much improved and expected to be present in the Senate the next day, he died in his room at the Westmoreland Club February 21, 1932.

One of the many honors conferred on Senator Buchanan, he would have enjoyed immensely to have seen, was the opening of the B. F. Buchanan Memorial Highway Route 16 that traverses the county he loved so well. He was a strong advocate and a power in securing the adoption of Governor Harry F. Byrd's pay-as-you-go plan for the construction of Virginia's Highway System.

JUNIUS EDGAR WEST

SUFFOLK

Lieutenant Governor, 1922-1930

WEST, JUNIUS E.—Patron of the West fee bill, the initial measure to stop the iniquities of the system of paying fees to elective officers. His successful leadership in securing the enactment of the above legislation did not deter his years of service in the Senate 1912-18, which he entered after serving Nansemond County in the House of Delegates in 1910. His popularity and ability displayed in his six years of service as a Senator won him double distinction in 1921 when he was chosen Lieutenant Governor on the ticket with Elbert Lee Trinkle as Governor. The elevation of Senator West was the first time a Governor or Lieutenant Governor had been chosen from the Second Congressional District in more than a half century. Additional honors were showered on Nansemond County during the first term of Lieutenant Governor West presiding as President of the Senate; the members of the House of Delegates honored his friend and near neighbor, Richard Lewis Brewer, Jr. as Speaker 1920-26.

In 1925 Lieutenant Governor West was chosen as the running mate of Harry Flood Byrd in his pay-as-you-go road building program that initiated a new era in the political and economic life of Virginia. He was the recipient of many other honors. His education was acquired in Suffolk Collegiate Institute, University of North Carolina, University of Virginia and Washington and Lee. He served as Superintendent of Schools of Essex County for several years, member of the Nansemond State Central and Executive Democratic Committee; Trustee of Elon (N. C.) College and State Teachers College, Farmville; Delegate to National Democratic Convention 1896 and 1932, and President of the Suffolk Chamber of Commerce 1937.

His portrait that adorns the wall of the Senate Chamber was unveiled January 27, 1932, before an audience to which he had endeared himself with his dignity, popularity and ability. His presence was greeted with a warm welcome and wishes for many years of continuous health, happiness and service to his State.

He died at Suffolk January 1, 1947.

JAMES HUBERT PRICE

RICHMOND CITY

Lieutenant Governor, 1930-1938

PRICE, JAMES H.—Like a number of other famous Virginia statesmen, saw the light of day in West Virginia. He became a resident of Virginia in his early youth, attending the schools of Augusta County and a graduate of the law school of Washington and Lee, in 1909.

His shingle initially adorned a modest office space in Staunton. Figuring Richmond possessed more opportunity for his advancement, he bundled up his possessions and became a resident of Richmond for the remainder of an unusual career. His rise to political fame had its incipency as an active member of the City Democratic Committee of which he became chairman. His next step up the political ladder was his election as a member of the House of Delegates where his popularity, ability and initiative soon were recognized and rewarded by his being chosen Chairman of the Committee of Courts of Justice and of the House Democratic Caucus.

In 1929 and 1933 he was chosen Lieutenant Governor without opposition from either party. He presided over the Senate during the administration of Governor John Garland Pollard and George Campbell Peery with graciousness and full knowledge of his duties.

In 1937 "Brother Jimmy of the Blue Lodge of Masons," as he was statewide known and endeared, reached his political goal by carrying every precinct in the State—a feat never before accomplished. On his inauguration he also established another record-breaker by becoming the first Chief Executive chosen from the qualified voters of Richmond since the Capitol Grounds were enclosed with an iron fence in 1819. His fraternal ambitions were crowned after receiving all the honors Virginia Masons could bestow upon him and he rapidly rose in the National organization of the Imperial Council of the Mystic Shrine of North America and became its Imperial Recorder, the position he held at the time of his death, November 22, 1943.



JAMES HUBERT PRICE

SAXON WINSTON HOLT

NEWPORT NEWS

President Pro Tempore, 1920-1937

Lieutenant Governor, 1938-1940

HOLT, SAXON W.—Held the record for the longest continuous service in the Senate of Virginia. His outstanding record dates from his entry in 1904 as the Senator of his adopted city and continued until he resigned to become Lieutenant Governor.

Senator Holt was an outstanding member of the Senate, not only because of his height and well distributed avoirdupois and heavy head of iron gray hair, but also because of his ability and quick grasp of legislation desired by the people. He was born in Surry County March 25, 1871, son of Dr. Micajah Quincy Holt and Virginia Henry Winston Holt, his education was completed at Bethel Academy in Warren and he became a traveling salesman for Butler & Bosher, Richmond manufacturers of chewing tobacco.

In 1899 in association with Arthur St. Clair Butler, a member of the firm, he had traveled Virginia and North Carolina as their salesman. They opened a wholesale grocery in Newport News as S. W. Holt and Company and built a large business. Mr. Butler's interest was acquired by the Senator's brother, Robert P. Holt. There were two important events in 1904 in his life's history. He married Miss Marie Davis Reynolds and he became a Senator. Senator and Mrs. Holt were the parents of three children: Saxon Winston, Jr., Marie Rand and Micajah Quincy, named for his grandfather.

The towering Senator was fearless in conduct, faithful in purpose and stainless in honor.

In 1920 he was chosen President Pro Tempore, which position he filled while serving also as floor leader, Chairman of the Committee of Privileges and Elections and a member of Finance.

In 1937 he was the winner of the race for Democratic nomination for Lieutenant Governor in the most contested race for that office since 1852, when the constitutional change of electing the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General by the voters became effective. The fight is recorded as one between the machine candidate, Holt, and Senator Robert W. Daniel of Brandon of the anti-machine forces.



SAXON WINSTON HOLT

Senator Holt's victory was by a very substantial majority. Shortly after his inauguration as Lieutenant Governor, January 19, 1938, his health began to fail and continued so until his death at his home in Newport News, March 31, 1940.

A striking oil painting likeness by John Slavin graces the south wall of the Senate Chamber, unveiled Saturday, March 23, 1940, by Miss Marie Rand Holt, his daughter, before an audience of the friends and admirers of the popular statesman.



WILLIAM MUNFORD TUCK

WILLIAM MUNFORD TUCK

HALIFAX

Lieutenant Governor, 1942-1946

TUCK, WILLIAM M.—“Bill” as he is extensively greeted and endeared far beyond the confines of his cherished Virginia, is a lawyer and farmer of South Boston, Virginia. He was born in Halifax County September 28, 1896; son of Robert James and Virginia Susan (Fitts) Tuck.

His father, a farmer and tobacconist, served in the House of Delegates of Virginia and for thirty years was a member of the Halifax County School Board. His grandfather, Captain William Munford Tuck, served in the Confederate Army as Commander of Company K, Third Virginia Infantry, Kemper's Brigade.

He attended public schools in his home county, the College of William and Mary, and Washington and Lee University, from which he graduated in 1921 with an LL.B. degree. He holds honorary degrees of LL.D. from Hampden-Sydney College, the College of William and Mary, Elon College (N. C.), and Washington and Lee University.

He was a member of the United States Marine Corps, World War I, having trained at Parris Island, S. C., and served with the Third Regiment in Santo Domingo.

He entered law practice in Halifax County in August, 1921, and is now senior member of the law firm of Tuck, Bagwell and Dillard with offices at South Boston and Halifax, Virginia.

Mr. Tuck married Eva Lovelace Dillard, February 26, 1928. A stepson, Lester L. Dillard, is one of his law partners in South Boston.

He represented Halifax County in the House of Delegates of Virginia, 1924-1932, and in the State Senate, 1932-1942, was Lieutenant Governor of Virginia, 1942-1946, was elected Governor of Virginia, November, 1945, and served the term of Governor January, 1946—January, 1950. He was Virginia Democratic Elector-at-Large, 1936; former Chairman, Virginia State Democratic Committee, and on April 14, 1953, was elected Representative from the Fifth Congressional District of Virginia to fill the unexpired term of Honorable Thomas B. Stanley, resigned. He was re-elected to the 84th, 85th and 86th Congresses.

Throughout his public service, and particularly during his term as Governor, Mr. Tuck exhibited a firm belief in the necessity of preserving states' rights and re-establishing the constitutional concept of Federal-State relations. A vigorous advocate of strengthening the public school program, he called a special session of the General Assembly to increase appropriations for public education.

His administration also was marked by broad improvements in the highway system, especially in the farm-to-market roads. For the first time, during his term, school buses were able to transport children to school throughout Virginia without a day lost by reason of impassable roads and this record has been maintained since that time.

Mr. Tuck offered pioneer legislation in the field of management-labor relations which became models for other states. Among these are the Virginia Public Utilities Labor Relations Act, passed in 1947, which has assured maintenance of essential public utility services throughout the Commonwealth; the "Right-to-Work" law, now on the books of many states, guaranteeing an individual's right to work regardless of membership or non-membership in a labor union or other organization; and a statute outlawing strikes by public employees.

He discouraged the federal grants-in-aid program and worked strenuously to have many of these programs returned to and be administered by the states.

He was Chairman of the Southern Governors' Conference in 1949.

He holds membership in the following: Board of Trustees of Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Baptist Church, The American and Virginia Bar Associations, Sons of American Revolution, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Omicron Delta Kappa, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Phi Delta Phi, American Legion, 40 and 8, Masons—33rd degree, B.P.O.E., Eagles, Woodmen of the World, Redmen, Moose, Lions, Ruritan, and others.

LEWIS PRESTON COLLINS, II

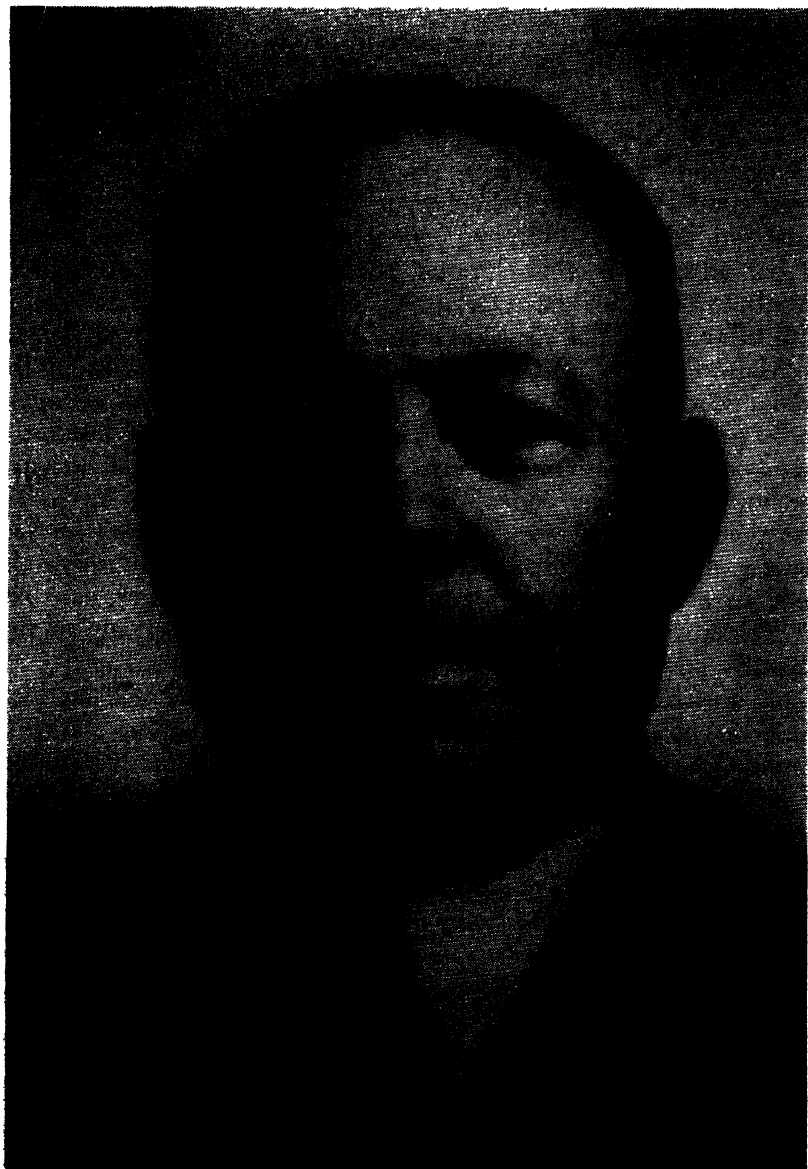
SMYTH

Lieutenant Governor, 1946-1952

COLLINS, LEWIS PRESTON, II—"The Linguist Lieutenant Governor" and President of the Senate of Virginia until his sudden death ended his outstanding career of seven years, was known to his intimate friends through life as "Pat." He was born in Lynchburg on Christmas Day, 1896, but his parents, Lewis Preston Collins and Ella Bolling Moorman Collins, soon afterwards moved to Marion where "Pat" received his academic education in the public schools of that city. Shortly after, he entered Washington and Lee University where he checked his books and became a member of the ambulance corps of W & L, which was assigned to the Twelfth Division of the French forces during 1917. He was twice decorated. On his return in 1919 he resumed his law classes and in 1920 he received his B. A. degree. He spent the next three years in the study of his chosen profession at Yale and on his return to Washington and Lee he was soon ready to successfully pass the examination for admittance to practice.

He opened his law office in Marion and supplemented his legal duties as Judge of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court of Smyth County. As an outstanding close and discriminating student of law problems, he was chosen a member of the House of Delegates in 1935. In 1936 he married Miss Pauline Hull Staley. His membership in the House continued until 1946. His striking personality, oratorical qualifications, ability and his ever ready Irish wit won him the successful election as Lieutenant Governor, on the ticket with the state-wide popular Lieutenant Governor William Munford Tuck as candidate for Chief Executive of the Commonwealth.

On February 18, 1948, Republican Senator Ralph L. Lincoln a fellow townsman, presented him with a gavel with the compliments of the Marion Chamber of Commerce. In presenting the gavel Senator Lincoln said—"while we differ politically, I am sure he will use the gavel with distinction and his customary fairness as presiding officer." The Lieutenant Governor in reply said—"I appreciate the honor and confidence my fellow townsmen have in me and I assure them and the members of the Senate it will

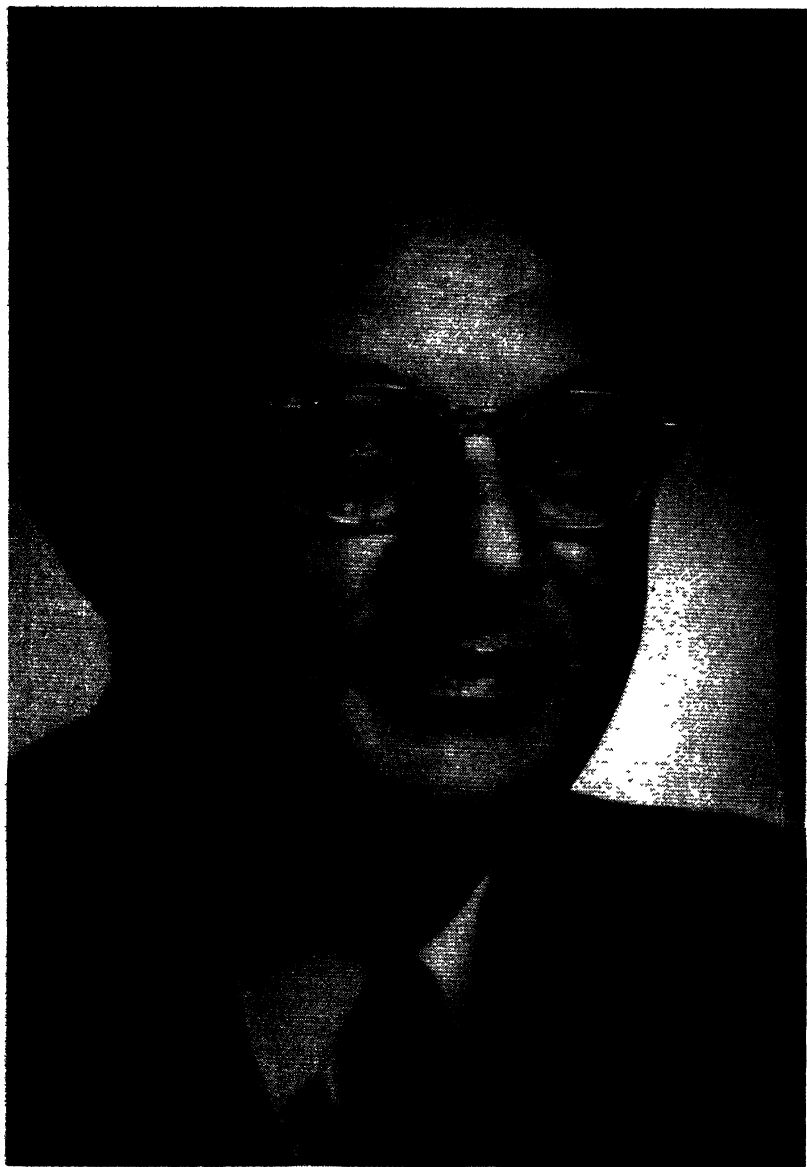


LEWIS PRESTON COLLINS, II

be my earnest effort to preside with dignity and fairness to all and I solicit your cooperation and assistance."

On Monday, January 17, 1950, the Lieutenant Governor, the supermost wordsmith in the Capitol, won his supremest victory. During the week previous he had shocked the members of the Senate and press when he made reference to Governor-elect, John S. Battle, with whom he had served in the House, "as a Virginian who soon would occupy the supremest office in the Commonwealth." No such word as "supremest" was the retort of a number of the Senators. The Lieutenant Governor, long known as one of the smoothest word technicians and one of the smoothest presiding officers ever to bang a gavel, preferred to ignore his tormentors. On the following Monday, armed with a score of musty books and a hard glint in his eye, he called for a stenographer and addressed a letter to several of his Senatorial and press critics and listed a number of quotations where the word "supremest" had been in usage by authorities for centuries. The graceful and exceedingly well-qualified presiding officer had one of the few opportunities that fall to the lot of a presiding officer to cast the deciding vote in February 1946, as to whether the second affidavit should be required in the application for a ballot under the Absent Voters Act. He voted to retain the second affidavit.

On September 20, 1952, while being introduced to deliver the dedication address on the opening of a new school for negroes at Wytheville, he was stricken with a heart ailment and died shortly afterwards. An oil portrait of the genial Lieutenant Governor was unveiled in the Senate on February 15, 1954.



ALLIE EDWARD STAKES STEPHENS

ALLIE EDWARD STAKES STEPHENS

ISLE OF WIGHT

Lieutenant Governor, 1952—

STEPHENS, "A.E.S."—Virginia was most fortunate that in 1922 the big broad shouldered six foot four blond, decided to quit professional baseball and resume his study of law at Williamsburg, although offers to sign on the dotted line were rather attractive. Returning to William and Mary, he made double time study of his law course, passing the Bar and making fast his shingle as an Attorney at Law at Isle of Wight Court House. In 1923 he opened his present office at Smithfield and persuaded Miss Anna Spratley Delk to become Mrs. Stephens. They are the happy parents of three children.

At the age of twenty-eight he began to establish precedents in the political arena of his native State by being elected Commonwealth Attorney of Isle of Wight, an office he did not seek and would not accept, having said "no" he meant "no." His positive refusal to accept the write-in choice for Commonwealth Attorney raised him in the estimation of his constituents, for he was chosen a member of the House of Delegates in 1929, where he served with most creditable ability until 1942 when he was chosen Senator.

Having been born and reared in Northumberland County, he was intensely interested in legislation pertaining to the Sea Food Industry and was chosen Chairman of the Committee on Fish and Game, also Chairman of the powerful Steering Committee. On his advancement to the Senate he was assigned to the Committees of Finance, General Laws, Chairman of Fish and Game, Insurance and Banking and Steering Committee.

After the death of Lieutenant Governor Lewis Preston Collins on September 20, 1952, he announced his candidacy for that office for the unexpired term and was chosen in November 1953. He was the choice for second in command likewise in 1957. Since his initial entry in the House of Delegates he has taken a vigorous interest in the public school system, being author, patron and member of the Denny Commission which accomplished most effective work of improvement in the public schools.

He presides over the Senate with a calm, cool dignity, stands for little horse play, which enables that body to accomplish its

daily task often in a short period of time. He is the official greeter to all guests and the thousands of school children who crowd the galleries. Two other functions are assigned to him, tie-breaker of the senate and to fill the shoes of the Governor when so requested.

The Lieutenant Governor is one of five brothers and it was not until the fourth generation that there was a Miss Stephens entered on the rolls as a member of the Stephens family.

The president of the Senate and his tall, slender wife have two extracurricular interests in common . . . the preservation of the old and historic. He has lately been devoting as much time as he can possibly spare to the work of restoration of St. Luke's Church near Smithfield, reputed to be the oldest Protestant Church in America in continuous use; built around 1632. He is one of the vice presidents of the Corporation formed in 1954 to restore and maintain the church as a national shrine, which has to date raised approximately \$300,000. He is acting as attorney for the Corporation and is a member of both its Board and Executive Committee, all of which calls for many hours of after-office labor.

Mrs. Stephens has been busy restoring "The Grove," an old home in Smithfield built about 1780, which she recently inherited and has painstakingly restored it to its original beauty, planned for the Stephens' own use.

Of the Stephens' three children, Jean, Martha Anne and George, it is George, aged 16, who is the most interested in the house venture, for he has been told that the third floor will be "all his."

Time out for civic duties is also on the schedules of both Mr. and Mrs. Stephens, he having been twice president of the Smithfield Rotary Club, President of the Community Athletic Association, member of the Ruritan and various other organizations, plus being a vestryman of Smithfield Episcopal Church.

Gifted with an analytical mind, the Lieutenant Governor is generally conceded to be one of the State's best informed men of fiscal affairs. He has both a penetrating eye and direct approach and is not only firm in his convictions but fearless in expressing them.

When he took over the No. 2 job in the Commonwealth in 1952, he summed up his ideas of government as follows: "The best thing we can do is to give our people the best that we can of those things that are best done by the government; schools, roads, pub-

lic health, welfare and research . . . and do as little else to hamper our people as possible."

All this is still true in 1959 as this man who is claimed with pride by Northumberland, county of his birth, and Isle of Wight, county of his adoption, prepares for a new term of office, dedicated to those things he believes to be best for the Commonwealth.

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IV
PRESIDENTS PRO TEMPORE OF
THE SENATE, 1858-1956

ORIGIN OF PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

WILLIAM MARSHALL AMBLER, 1858-1860

JAMES F. JOHNSON, 1861-1865

JOSEPH ADDISON WADDELL, 1870-1871

HENRY W. THOMAS, 1871-1875

(BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH UNDER LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS)

WILLIAM D. QUESENBERRY, 1875-1879

WYATT MOSELEY ELLIOTT, 1879-1882

HENRY CLINTON WOOD, 1882

JOHN LYNN HURT, 1884-1894

WILLIAM LOVENSTEIN, 1895-1896

HENRY THOMAS WICKHAM, 1897-1906 AND 1938-1943

EDWARD ECHOLS, 1908-1914

(BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH UNDER LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS)

CYRUS HARDING WALKER, 1915-1919

SAXON WINSTON HOLT, 1920-1937

(BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH UNDER LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS)

ROBERT OPIE NORRIS, JR., 1945-1950

MORTON G. GOODE, 1950

ROBERT CARRINGTON VADEN, 1952

WALTER CLEVELAND CAUDILL, M.D., 1954

CHARLES T. MOSES, 1956—

ORIGIN OF PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Early in the initial session (1776) of the oldest legislative body on the Western Hemisphere, Patrick Henry, the first Governor, complained of being ill and desirous of going to his home for a rest. Monday, November 4, 1776, the Senate received the following message from the House of Delegates: "Mr. Speaker and Members of the Senate; the House of Delegates have passed a bill entitled an Act to empower the eldest Privy Counsellor to act as Lieutenant Governor in case of the death, inability or necessary absence of the Governor and President of the Council; to which they desire the concurrence of the Senate." The Senate concurred. This Act was in force until the Legislature made effective a mandate of the Constitutional Convention of 1850-51 effective January 1, 1852, requiring the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General to be chosen by the ballot of the qualified voters. Among the duties designated to the Lieutenant Governor was to preside over the sessions of the Senate with the title of President of the Senate, instead of Speaker.

The Constitutional Convention and the sessions of the Legislature failed to provide a method of choosing a substitute presiding officer of the Senate in case of the inability or absence of the President until December 9, 1857.

The Senate Committee on Courts of Justice was instructed "to report a bill providing for the discharge of the executive functions of the Lieutenant Governor in case he shall be removed from office, die, resign or fail to qualify, etc." In the discussion of the advisability of the measure it was brought out that the commission of the then Lieutenant Governor would expire within thirty days from the beginning of the session (December 7, 1857).

Journal of the Senate January 6, 1858: "The Commission of William L. Jackson, Lieutenant Governor, having expired this day at twelve o'clock and he having vacated the chair, on motion of Senator William P. Thompson of Amelia, the Senate proceeded to the election of a president pro tempore." Senator William Marshall Ambler of Louisa was the unanimous choice of his colleagues as the first president pro tempore of the Senate of Virginia. A resolution expressing the appreciation of Lieutenant Jackson's able, dignified and impartial manner in which he had presided over its deliberations was unanimously adopted by the Senate.

WILLIAM MARSHALL AMBLER

LOUISA

President Pro Tempore, 1858-1860

AMBLER, WILLIAM MARSHALL—The first President Pro Tempore of the Senate, also the first recorded signer of the Senate resolution favoring secession in the Convention of 1861. He was the youngest son of Colonel John Ambler of the Nineteenth Virginia Regiment, War of 1812. Colonel Ambler was a wealthy citizen who resided at the Ambler home at Jamestown, was prominent in the financial affairs of Richmond, an initial subscriber for the erection of Monumental Church and a member of the jury that indicted Aaron Burr. His grandfather, Jacquelin Ambler, was the noted treasurer of Virginia who moved to Richmond when it became the seat of Government, and was a member of the first City Council of Richmond. He married the daughter of John Marshall.

The first President Pro Tempore of the Senate was born at the "Cottage" in Hanover, July 25, 1813. He was a student at William and Mary and the University of Virginia. He completed his legal studies in the office of Judge Lomax of Fredericksburg. Through his ability and popularity, he acquired a most lucrative practice in the near by counties of Louisa, Goochland, Fluvanna and Hanover. These qualities resulted in his election as their Senator from 1846 to 1858 and as member of the 1861 Convention from Louisa.

He was chairman of the Senate Committee of Courts of Justice for a number of years, a member of the joint committee that drafted a revision of the Code of 1849.

On January 6, 1858, he was unanimously chosen the first President Pro Tempore of the Senate. On June 20, 1855, he married Martha Elizabeth Coleman.

He died August 25, 1896 at his plantation "Lakeland" in Louisa and the interment was in the cemetery at "Chantilly," Hanover, the home of his daughter.

JAMES F. JOHNSON

BEDFORD

President Pro Tempore, 1861-1865

JOHNSON, JAMES "FOOT"—The second Senator to serve as President Pro Tempore, was a native of Bedford County and a successful attorney at law from February, 1840. He was chosen Senator from Bedford in 1853 as a successor to Senator Samuel T. Brown. His ability and attention to his senatorial committee assignments were rewarded by his being chosen President Pro Tempore from 1861 to March 15, 1865. In 1870-71 he is credited as being co-owner and co-publisher of the Southern Planter and Farmer with John C. Allen.

JOSEPH ADDISON WADDELL

AUGUSTA

President Pro Tempore, 1870-1871

WADDELL, JOSEPH A.—An outstanding legislator and citizen of many accomplishments. Born in Staunton March 19, 1823, son of Dr. Addison Waddell, a deeply read metaphysician and theologian. Joseph A's early education was acquired at the Staunton Academy and his legal training at Washington and Lee. Before beginning the practice of law he was office assistant to Judge Lucas P. Thompson of the Augusta Circuit Court. After a few years of general practice he became co-publisher and co-editor of the Staunton Spectator. He was chosen a member of the House of Delegates 1865-67; a member of the Constitutional Convention 1867-68; Senate 1869-71, and was President Pro Tempore March 24, 1870 to March 31, 1871. He was appointed Commissioner in Chancery and Accounts by Judge Thompson and on September 2, 1870, was deputy clerk of the Court of Appeals at Staunton. Elevated to the Clerkship June 24, 1876, displaced (due to politics) by James B. Dorman January 23, 1883, reappointed Clerk January 5, 1895 and served until his retirement.

He is the author of *Annals of Augusta County*, a most interesting brief history of the County and its citizens including the narrative of Jacob Bumgardner, the Augusta County youngster who was in Boston with his father on the 18th of December in 1773. He boarded the English ship and assisted in the opening of hundreds of canisters of tea and dumping their contents in the harbor of Boston.

The name Bumgardner is more familiarly known as the distiller of a famous brand of throat moistener in Augusta County, Virginia than as a heaver of tea over the gunwale of an English ship in Boston Harbor.

WILLIAM D. QUESENBERRY

CAROLINE

President Pro Tempore, 1875-1879

QUESENBERRY, WILLIAM D.—Entered the Senate political arena as representative of the Counties of Caroline and Spotsylvania, 1859-65.

Following the redistricting of the State after it returned to the Union he represented the Counties of Caroline and Hanover from 1871 to 1879.

In 1875 he was chosen by his fellow members of the Senate President Pro Tempore where he presided with dignity, ability and popularity until 1879.

WYATT MOSELEY ELLIOTT

APPOMATTOX

President Pro Tempore, 1879-1882

ELLIOTT, WYATT M.—Acquired the title of “General” as a member of the Staff of Governor Gilbert C. Walker (1870-74). He won the rank of a full-fledged Colonel in the War Between the States. The genial “General” was born February 25, 1823, in the corner of Campbell County that became a portion of Appomattox County in 1845.

His early education was acquired in Buckingham County and at the age of sixteen he became a student at Virginia Military Institute, and was chosen Captain of the first Corps of Cadets.

Upon graduation he returned to Buckingham and taught school for two years, during this period he read law under Colonel W. P. Bock.

In 1845 he became associate editor of the Richmond Whig. The military training he received at V.M.I. was recognized in 1847 when he was chosen Captain of Company A—Richmond Grays.

In October 1859, when the rioters at Harpers Ferry were not subdued by the first detachment of militia ordered to the scene by Governor Wise, five hundred members of the Richmond militia accompanied Governor Wise to Harpers Ferry. One of the units being the Richmond Grays under Captain Elliott, and they experienced the pleasure of associating with federal troops under the command of Colonel Robert E. Lee and Lieutenant J. E. B. Stuart.

A portion of the Grays under Captain Elliott remained at Harpers Ferry and were on duty around the scaffold when John Brown and three others of the rioters were hanged. The Richmond Grays were early volunteers and became a unit of the First Virginia Regiment of Infantry, C.S.A. Captain Elliott served as a member of the Richmond Committee that did itself and their city proud in entertaining the Prince of Wales, later King Edward VII, and his staff on their visit October 6, 1880.

In 1862 Captain Elliott resigned his commission and was authorized to organize a battalion of six companies for Civil Defense of which he was commissioned Lieutenant Colonel. He was captured a prisoner April 6, 1865, at Saylor's Creek and imprisoned

on Johnson Island on Lake Erie, released by order of President Johnson July 1, 1865.

He returned to Richmond and his editorial duties on the Whig for a year, when he decided to return to Appomattox.

From 1871 to 1873 he represented his county in the House of Delegates. In 1875 he was chosen Senator and climaxed his senatorial career as President Pro Tempore the last four years of his successful service. He was honored by Governor Cameron as a member of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia, was chosen Chancellor and remained on the Board during the term of Governor Walker. In 1884 he was appointed Clerk of the U. S. District at Lynchburg, which he filled with many commendations until his death, February 24, 1897.

HENRY CLINTON WOOD

DICKENSON

President Pro Tempore, 1882

WOOD, HENRY C.—Few men in the public life of Virginia have the honor of having the seat of their county government named for them. This unusual appreciation came to Senator Henry C. Wood in 1880 when he secured the successful passage of an act carving Dickenson County out of Wise, Buchanan, Russell and the county seat was given the name of Clintwood.

Born at Gate City, Scott County, February 15, 1836, he received his early three R's at home, after which he attended Falls Branch Seminary. On the call of Virginia in 1861 he organized a company in Scott County which was attached to the 37th Virginia Regiment. Captain Wood and his company participated in forty-three major engagements from Cross Keys to Cold Harbor. When at Gaines Mill, Colonel S. U. Faulkner, commander of the regiment, was mortally wounded, his death necessitated the reorganization of the regiment. Captain Wood was advanced to Major and his brother, J. H. (Harvey) Wood, was promoted to Captain. At a farewell party tendered his company, on their leaving Gate City in 1861, Captain Wood was presented by the ladies of that community with a silk Virginia Flag. At Gettysburg where he was slightly wounded, he captured a silk Union Flag. On his return home in 1865 he presented to a number of the ladies of 1861 the two flags.

Entering the commercial life of the fast-growing Southwest following the war depression, Major Wood became president of the South Atlantic and Ohio Railroad, which today is a link in the Southern Railway System. His progressive spirit was soon recognized in his area and he was elected Senator in 1875 where he served until 1882. His popularity in the Senate was attested by his being chosen President Pro Tempore for the last half of the session.

In 1885 he was candidate for Lieutenant Governor with John S. Wise as the gubernatorial aspirant on the Readjuster ticket, but they were unsuccessful against Major General Fitzhugh Lee and State Senator John E. (Parson) Massey. In 1892 he opposed ex-Senator James W. Marshall for Congress but was again in second place.

JOHN LYNN HURT

PITTSYLVANIA

President Pro Tempore, 1884-1894

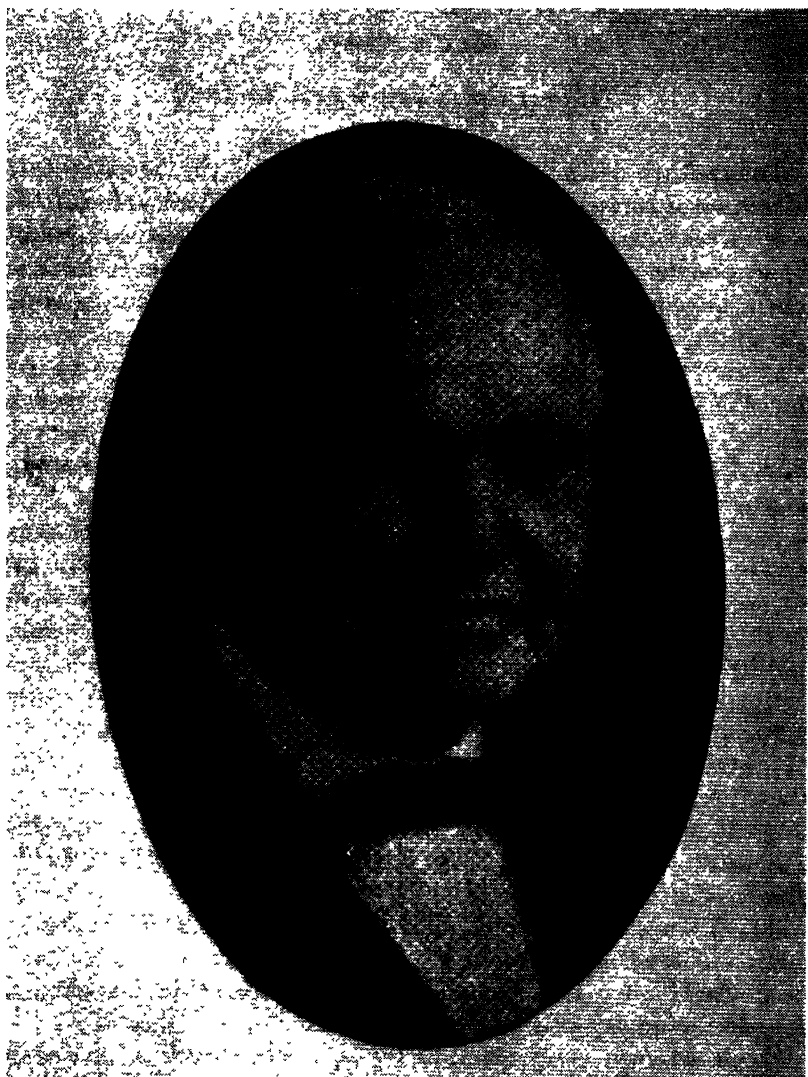
HURT, JOHN L., a most colorful member of the Senate during his tenure of service (1877-1894). Among the lawmakers of today he is virtually a forgotten man, but in his old stomping grounds of the northern area of Pittsylvania, he is still a vivid character, rich in anecdote and eccentricities in the classic tradition of south-side Virginia.

Twenty-seven years after his death, his namesake still calls himself "Junior" to keep the public informed that he is not his colorful uncle. "Uncle John" was born in Tennessee, March 10, 1838, but his parents returned shortly to the ancestral home of his grandfather, Dr. John E. Linn at Crystal Hill, Halifax County. As was the prevailing custom of those days, the future Senator's early education was acquired in private schools. He early gave fair warning to the world that he was an individualist by changing the spelling of his mother's name from Linn to Lynn.

While reading law in the office of a local barrister, Virginia sounded the call for her sons to rally in defense of Virginia's rights, and the 22 year old law student volunteered and was chosen a Lieutenant in the Sixth Virginia Cavalry. He was captured and when exchanged under the code of honor of those days, he was assigned to non-combatant duty, producing food for the army with headquarters on the large plantation, "Clement Hill" in Pittsylvania County.

He was not only successful in working the slaves in the production of food and meat but in winning the hand of the niece of the house, Nancy Lee Clements. After her death he acquired the vast plantation from the Clements heirs.

About this time he was well on his way to becoming a "character," adorned as much with anecdotes as with the inevitable broad brimmed hat and black string tie. He was accorded the honorary title of "Major" due to his record as the foremost "Carpetbag buster" of his day, according to the file of clippings from northern newspapers in the Alderman Library at the University of Virginia in which he was bitterly attacked as the chief operator for the famous "Big Four Quartet" of the Senators of the Read-



JOHN LYNN HURT

juster period. He could be subtle—a teetotaler himself but he is credited with the adroit use of John Barleycorn to undermine supporters of Carpetbag legislation.

One of the best stories related about the Senator is that of Lady Astor. As Nancy Langhorne of Eansville, she had often visited Clement Hill. As Lady Astor, she did not visit Clement Hill, but would request the conductor on the Southern Railway trains to stop expressly at Hurts Station so she could honor the old “Major” with a kiss. Prior to his two decades of service in the Senate, he was justice of the peace and clerk of the Court of Pittsylvania from 1864 to 1873. His rugged individualist’s life to the end was occupied with interesting people, incidents and playing pinochle, which did not play out until he died on September 13, 1931 at the age of 93. Just to make sure everybody knew he was up and about, he sent hundreds of cards on his birthdays up to and including his 93rd on March 10, 1931.

WILLIAM LOVENSTEIN

RICHMOND CITY

President Pro Tempore, 1895-1896

LOVENSTEIN, WILLIAM—Born in Henrico County in 1840. He was a member of the Richmond Light Infantry Blues and was at Roanoke Island February 8, 1862 when his Captain, O. Jennings Wise and several members of Company E were killed. He entered political life in Virginia as a member of the House of Delegates from Richmond in 1869 and served until 1880 when he, and Henry W. Atkinson, Jr., were chosen Senators representing the City of Richmond and Henrico County. He concluded his twenty-five years as legislator in the two branches by being honored as President Pro Tempore of the Senate for the session December 4, 1895 to March 4, 1896.

He died in Richmond December 26, 1896.

HENRY THOMAS WICKHAM

HANOVER

President Pro Tempore, 1897-1906 and 1923-1943

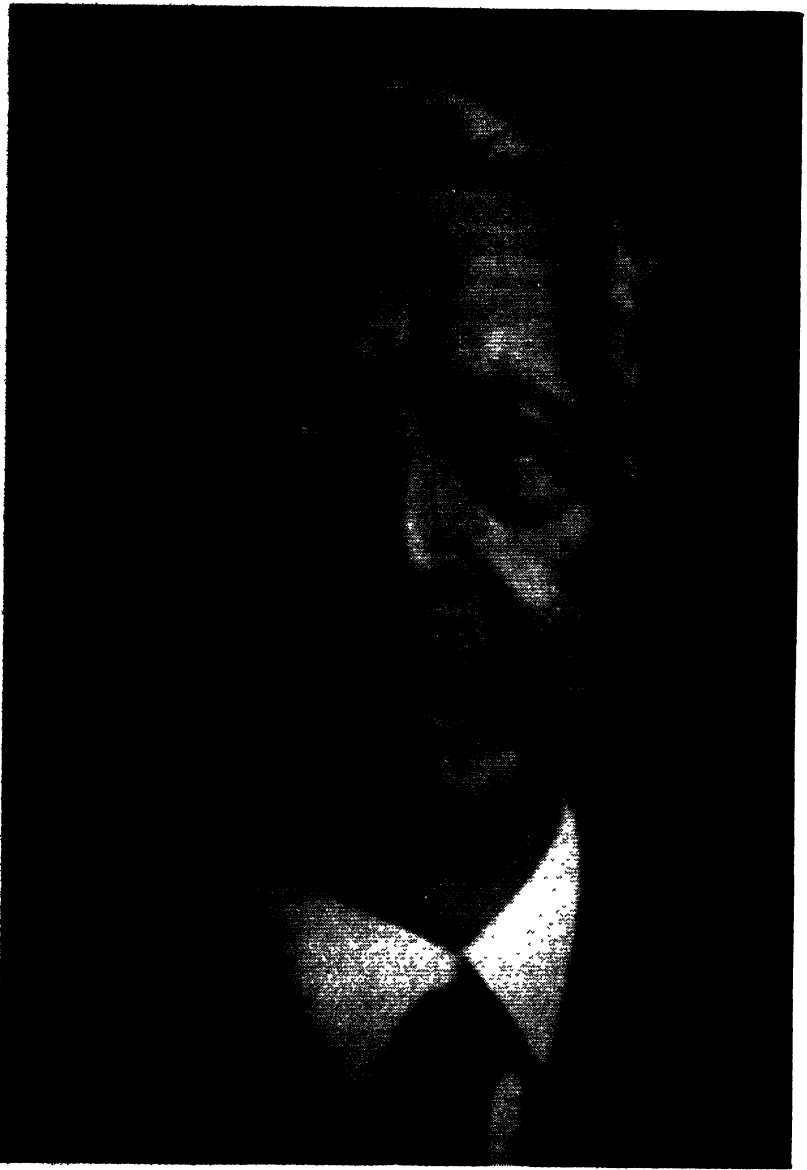
WICKHAM, HENRY T.—One of the outstanding Virginia legislators following the Reconstruction era that returned Virginia to Virginians to formulate and direct its government. The "Sage of Hanover," as he was termed by his intimates, was born at the ancestral Wickham plantation "Hickory Hill," December 12, 1849. The early educational training of the stately and scholarly President Pro Tempore of the Senate for many sessions at two different periods, was from private tutors at Hickory Hill. His next educational period was at Washington College, now Washington and Lee University, with General Robert E. Lee as its president. He was a very apt student and upon graduation he received his Bachelor of Arts certificate with a congratulatory hand shake from General Lee, of which he was justly proud, and to which he often made reference.

In 1870 his law degree parchment was presented by his favorite professor, John B. Minor of the University of Virginia whom Senator Wickham credited with his success as a practicing attorney.

His father was Brigadier General William C. Wickham of the Fourth Virginia Cavalry, noted for his courage both physical and moral, his integrity, firmness of character and the strength of his convictions. His ability and popularity in his native county was recognized by his being chosen a member of the House of Delegates 1847-50; of the Senate 1859-61; and of the Constitutional Convention of 1861. He returned to the Senate 1883 to 1888. The esteem of his war comrades and employees of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, of which he rose to be president, is attested by a monument that adorns Monroe Park, unveiled in 1891. His mother was Lucy Penn Taylor of the Caroline family of Taylors, a niece of the mother of General Robert E. Lee.

The sage of Hickory Hill who followed in the footsteps of his illustrious father as a planter, lawyer, railroad official and legislator, did not rely on his ancestors for his success in life, but started searching for a position as soon as he arrived home from the University of Virginia, and in a few days he accepted a clerkship in a law office in Richmond.

In 1874 he became associated with the office of the Solicitor



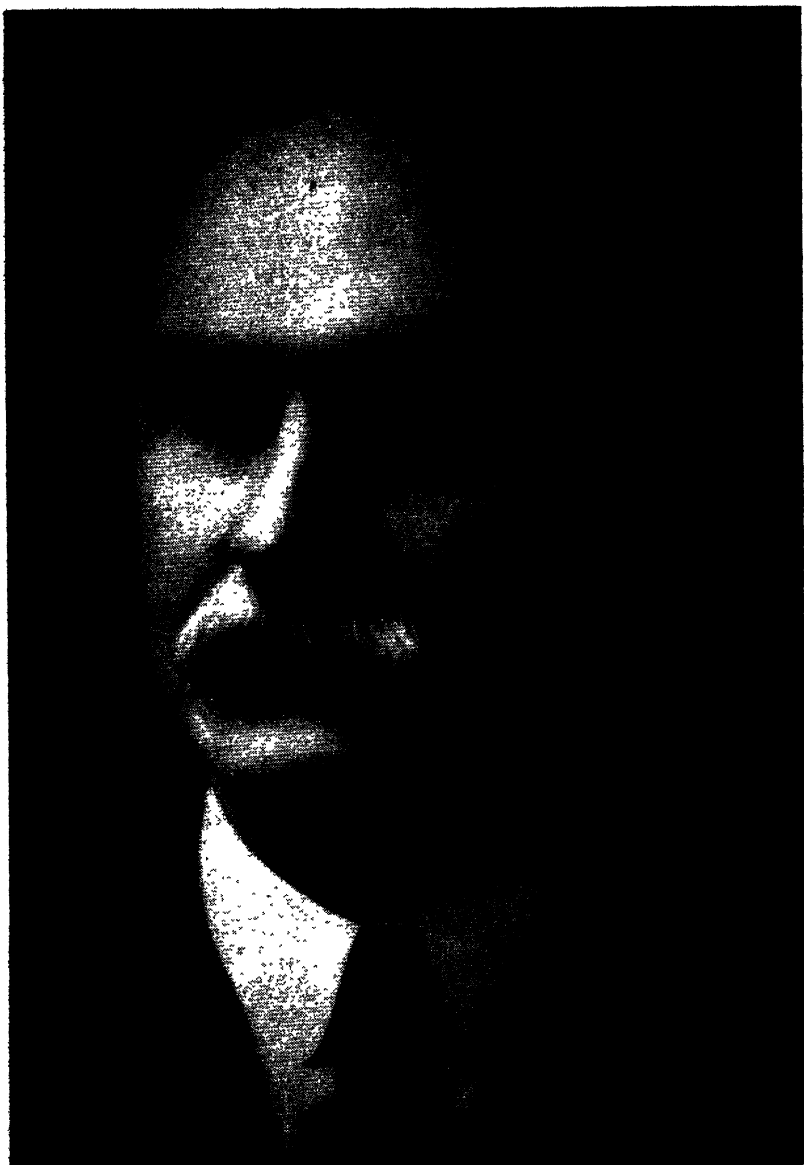
HENRY THOMAS WICKHAM

of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway where he successfully climbed the railroad ladder, becoming Chief Solicitor and Vice President.

His initial legislative experience began as a member of the House of Delegates 1879-80. At the opening of the session of the Senate of December 4, 1889, he was the successor to his father as the Senatorial representative of Hanover and Caroline Counties. He was serving as President Pro Tempore and Chairman of the Finance Committee when he breathed his last at his winter home in the Jefferson Hotel, March 5, 1943, at the age of ninety-three.

His remarkable energy, memory, honesty of purpose, unselfish regard for the public interest and as a consistent advocate of increased funds for public education and the welfare of the remaining Confederate veterans and the widows of their comrades, stood him foremost.

Governor James H. Price, members of the General Assembly and everyone who could find space in the Hall of the House of Delegates witnessed the enactment of a scene on February 23, 1940, without parallel in the memory of that vast audience. The occasion was an address by Senator Wickham in which he briefly sketched a number of his personal recollections of General Robert E. Lee and family. The tall, straight President Pro Tempore in spite of his ninety years took his audience back to his boyhood days when he first met General Lee, and held them spellbound for more than an hour as he rapidly swept through his early years to the deathbed scene of the great Southern chieftain. He spoke with a spirit that denied his fourscore and ten, fascinating the intense audience with recollections of a period of which perhaps not two of his listeners had even a flickering memory and except for an occasional cough from someone in the audience, his voice alone broke the deep silence of the packed Chamber of the House of Delegates.



CYRUS HARDING WALKER

CYRUS HARDING WALKER

NORTHUMBERLAND

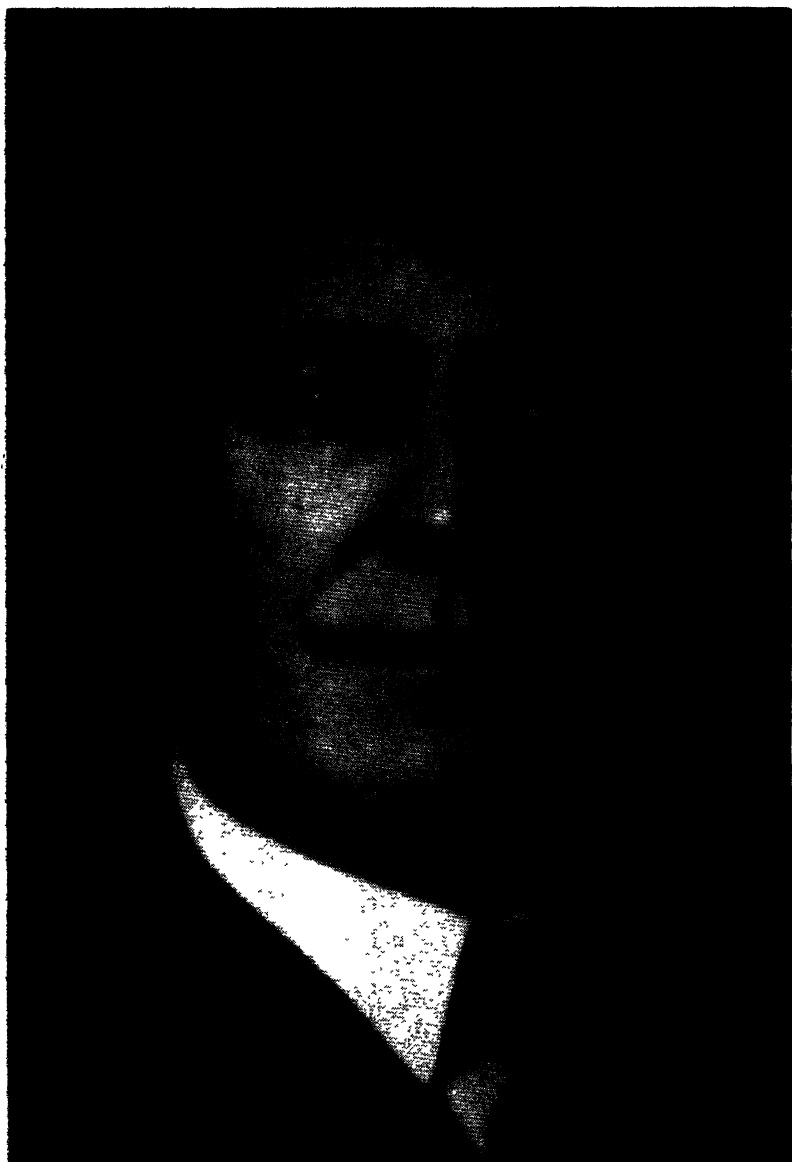
President Pro Tempore, 1915-1919

WALKER, C. HARDING—Member of Constitutional Convention 1901-02. An honor graduate of law at the University of Virginia, he served as Rector of the Board of Visitors for eight years. Born in Westmoreland County, he moved in the early years of his practice to Heathsville, county seat of Northumberland, where he prospered as the county grew.

In his legislative career in the House of Delegates 1897-98, Senate 1899-1919, he was recognized as an outstanding constitutional lawyer, and both bodies usually followed his advice in measures when the constitutionality of a proposed act was involved. He was an alcoholic tee-totaler and an ardent champion of the adoption of the prohibition statutes.

He was Vice President of the Bank of Heathsville from 1928 until his death February 23, 1934.

Two sons somewhat followed in the legal footsteps of their honored father. George Walker was Judge of the County Courts of Westmoreland and Richmond until his retirement in 1958. Henry M. Walker, his youngest son, served as Clerk of the Circuit Court of Northumberland until ill health necessitated his retirement.



ROBERT OPIE NORRIS, JR.

ROBERT OPIE NORRIS, JR.

LANCASTER

President Pro Tempore, 1945-1950

NORRIS, ROBERT O., JR.—Forty-three years of service as a leader in the Legislature of Virginia with the exception of three months in 1945 when he was a member of the Corporation Commission. This Lancaster County native was born November 4, 1882, and his ancestors were Lancasterians since 1663.

Educated at Randolph-Macon Academy at Bedford, he received his B. A. in law at the University of Richmond in 1899. In 1902 he was admitted to the bar and in the same year became chairman of the Democratic Committee of Lancaster County, which position he held for 54 years. His legislative career began as a member of the House in 1912 and in 1916 he was made Chairman of the Committee on General Laws over the vigorous protest of the recognized leader of the Anti-Saloon League in Virginia.

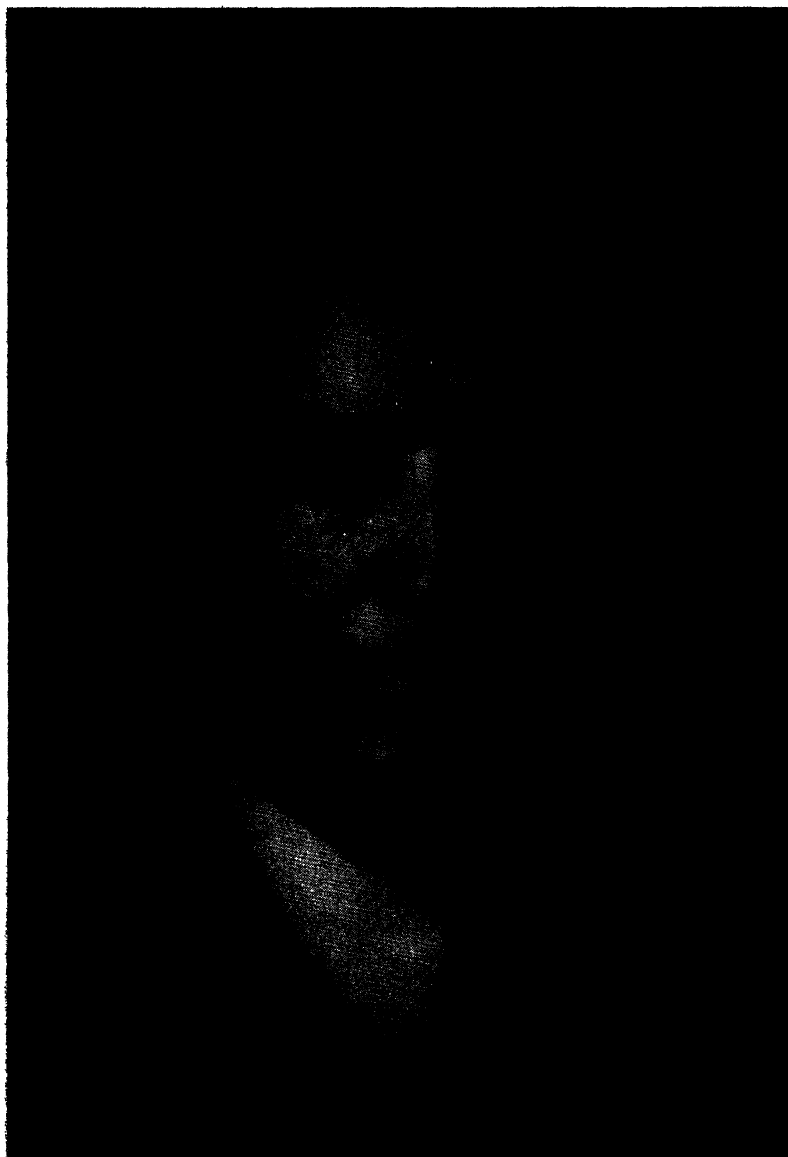
In 1928 his Northern Neck constituents advanced him to the Senate. From 1945 to 1950 he was President Pro Tempore of the Senate, which he resigned to accept the chairmanship of the Finance Committee.

In 1952 he fought with all of his debating skill the redistricting bill which would have disrupted the long-standing composition of Northern Neck Senatorial District. A compromise was effected by the adding of Stafford and Prince William to the Counties of Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond, Westmoreland and King George.

Senator Norris announced his retirement from the Senate the day the redistricting bill became effective Jan. 1, 1956. He now spends his time in the law office of Norris, Clarke and Foster, the latter being his son-in-law.

He is erudite and his accumulation of books occupies considerable space in "Lively Oaks," his home since boyhood, a large rambling frame structure.

He has been president of the Northern Neck Historical Society for a number of years, which has for its objective the accumulation and recording of historical facts pertaining to the six counties comprising the Northern Neck and the thirteen original Colonies in general.



MORTON GRAHAM GOODE

MORTON GRAHAM GOODE.

DINWIDDIE

President Pro Tempore, 1950

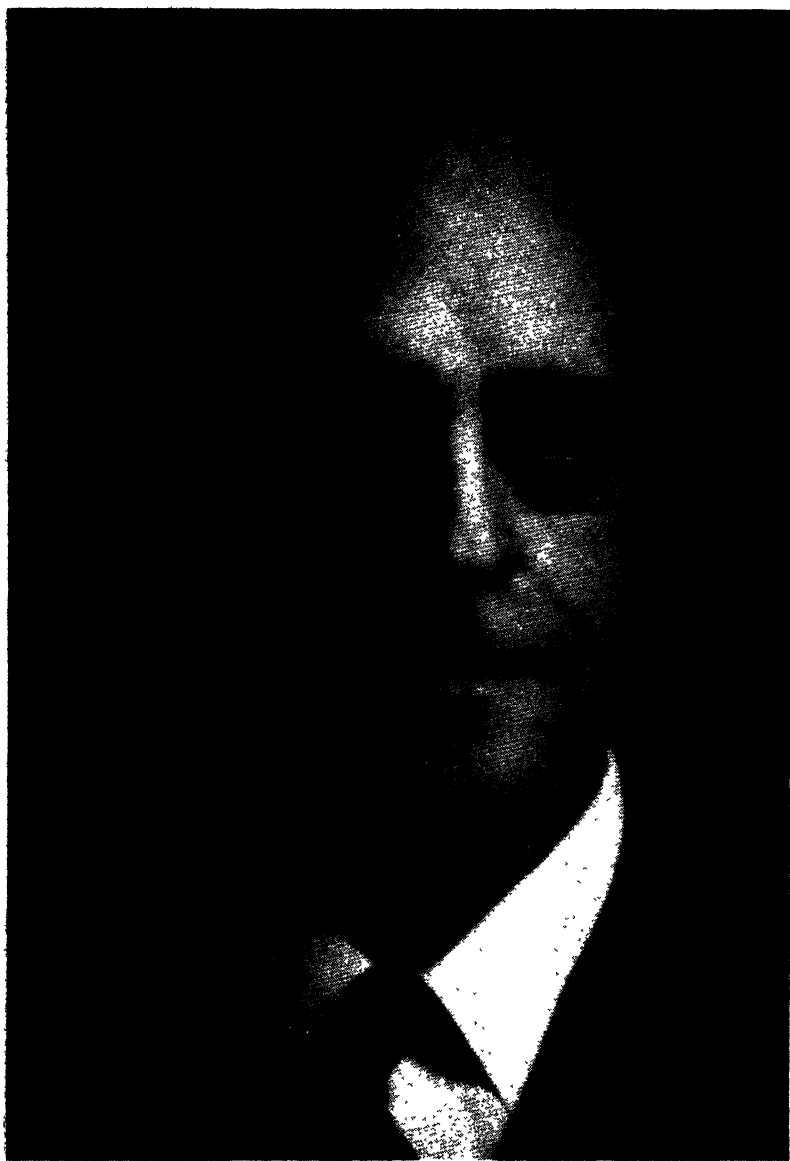
GOODE, MORTON GRAHAM—Few members of the Legislature of Virginia have been more generous with their time and ability than Senator Morton G. Goode in the twenty years he served as a member of the Senate.

He was born in Mecklenburg County, June 29, 1886. He attended the schools of Mecklenburg County, Fredericksburg College and graduated from the University of Virginia in 1910 with an "LLB" degree. In the same year he began practice of law at Dinwiddie Court House. The next year he was chosen Commonwealth's Attorney serving until he resigned in 1921 to become a State Senator where he rendered twenty years of constructive service, 1921-1927 and 1936-1950."

In 1929 he was appointed by Governor Harry F. Byrd a member of the Board of Visitors to the Virginia Normal Industrial Institute. In 1933 Governor John Garland Pollard appointed him a member of the Board of Directors of the Central State Hospital and he served as chairman of this board until the institution became a unit of the Board of Mental Hygiene and Hospitals in 1937. He was chosen as its first chairman, serving until 1948 when he resigned.

In the legislation establishing this important division of State Government, Senator Goode was patron of the measures which permitted the coordination of the work of the various hospital units. In the meantime, he was Chairman of the Committee on Banking and Insurance, member of Public Institutions, Education, Finance, Moral, Social and Children's Welfare, and a member of the State Board of Law Examiners 1936-48.

In recognition of his efficient service, he was chosen President Pro Tempore of the session of 1950, after which he chose not to be a candidate for future senatorial service, but he has maintained his interest and activity in Democratic affairs in his county and is a most welcome visitor to the sessions of the Senate since his retirement.



ROBERT CARRINGTON VADEN

ROBERT CARRINGTON VADEN

PITTSYLVANIA

President Pro Tempore, 1952

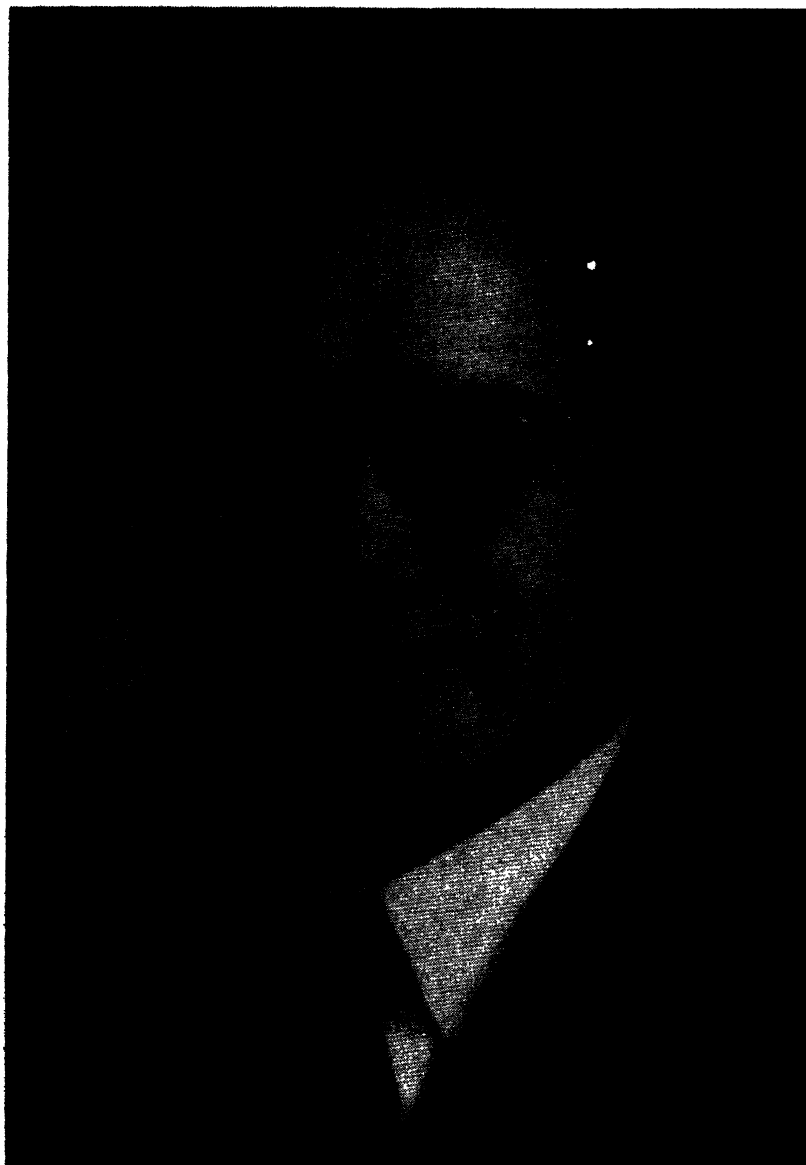
VADEN, ROBERT CARRINGTON—The genial courteous, unassuming President Pro Tempore and acting Lieutenant Governor, upon the death of Lieutenant Governor Lewis Preston Collins, became a member of the Senate in 1933 as the successor for the unexpired term of Judge Edward J. Harvey, with sixteen years of political life as the Mayor of Gretna.

His early schooling was acquired in Pittsylvania County, where he was born on October 5, 1882, and where the Vadens had been progressive and influential citizens for several generations.

In 1908 he was enrolled at Richmond College and in 1910 he entered the commercial life of Gretna as an associate of his father in the milling, lumber and general mercantile business, and in 1920 he became the sole owner of the thriving business. His inherited faith in the Democratic Party was rewarded by being chosen Senator in 1933 as dual representative of the Counties of Pittsylvania, Patrick and Henry, and the Cities of Danville and Martinsville. His popularity, prestige and courteous manner never waned until August 13, 1953, when on account of his health, he closed an active senatorial career of twenty years.

He was co-patron with Senator W. A. Garrett of the first appropriation for public school libraries. In 1938 he sponsored the measure for the sale of books used in the public schools at the cost to the State. In 1942 he was successful in increasing the membership of the State Highway Commissioners to one for each Congressional District.

At his death, February 20, 1954, he was a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Richmond, President of the Bank of Gretna, and president and owner of the Galveston Mills, Inc.



WALTER CLEVELAND CAUDILL, M.D.

WALTER CLEVELAND CAUDILL, M.D.

GILES COUNTY

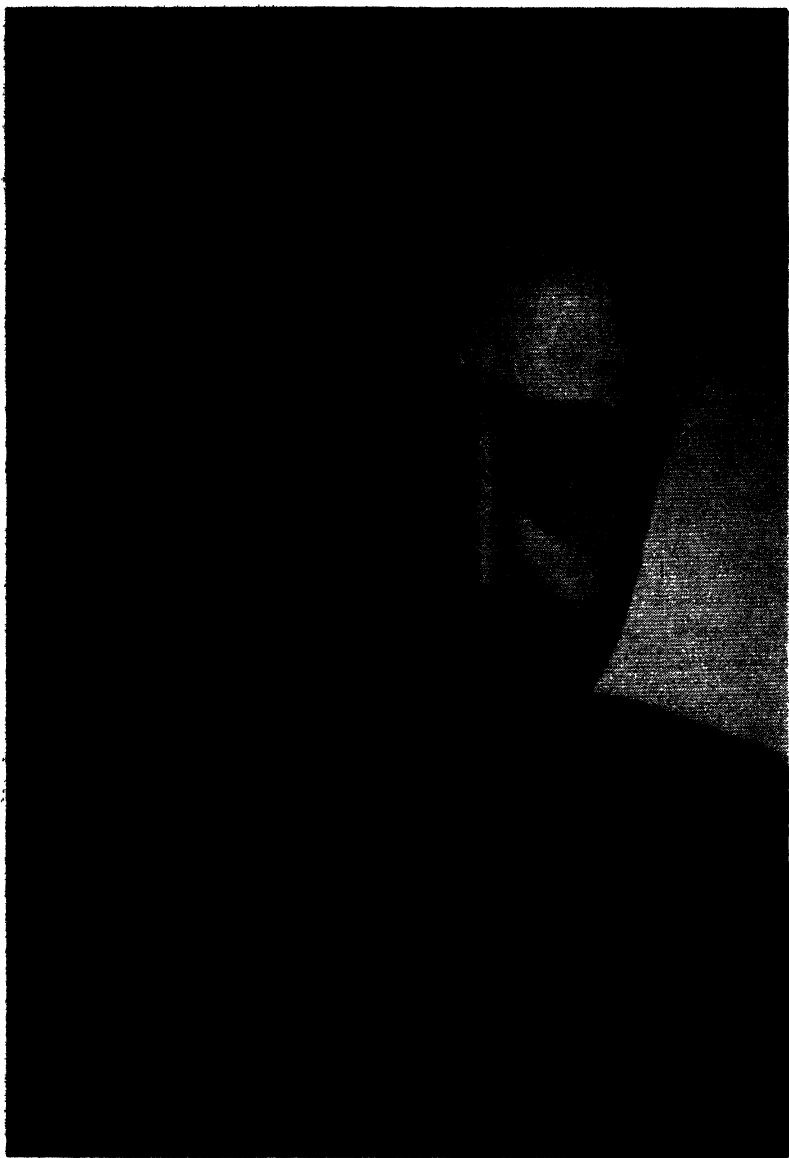
President Pro Tempore, 1954

CAUDILL, W. C., M. D.—Endeared himself to his Senate associates and all who had the pleasure of knowing him by his personality, ability and conservatism, was born in North Carolina on June 9, 1888. He graduated from the Medical College of Virginia in 1913, later interning at St. Elizabeth Hospital.

On September 30, 1917, he was commissioned a First Lieutenant in the U. S. Medical Corps and entrained shortly for overseas service, returning in June 1919 with the rank of Captain. He resumed the practice of medicine at Pearisburg and in 1924 with his brother, Dr. Estill L. Caudill, built St. Elizabeth Hospital at Pearisburg, where he serves as chief surgeon.

A life adherent to the Democratic doctrine, he served as Chairman of the party in Giles County for a number of years. In 1936 he became a member of the House of Delegates, serving through the 1938 session and entered the Senate in 1940 as the representative of the nineteenth Senatorial District comprising the Counties of Bland, Giles, Pulaski and Wythe.

At the close of the 1954 Session he announced that due to the increase in his professional duties and the distance to Richmond, he must bid farewell to his Senatorial associates and Richmond friends.



CHARLES THOMAS MOSES

CHARLES THOMAS MOSES

APPOMATTOX

President Pro Tempore, 1956—

MOSES, CHARLES T.—Senior member of the Senate, where his continuous years of service date from 1936. He saw the light of day in Appomattox County, June 27, 1897, a few miles from the surrender grounds of the War Between the States, on the tobacco farm of his father, Thomas W. Moses. His early education was acquired in a one-room red brick school a mile distant.

In 1907 the family moved to the Courthouse where his father opened a tobacco warehouse. The future Senior Senator entered the public schools of the little town and was a graduate of the Appomattox Agricultural High School in June 1916. He entered his father's warehouse as salesman and bookkeeper.

Seeing the rapid trend of automobiles replacing horse drawn vehicles, he entered the automobile field in 1919 as an agency and in 1922 his father joined him in a dual dealership of two popular makes of cars. His son, Charles T., Junior, upon completion of his military service in 1946, joined his father and grandfather in the rapid expansion of the sale of automobiles. Junior was admitted as a partner in 1957 of the Moses Motor Company, composed of the three Moses. The Pro Tempore President of the Senate was married to Mary Virginia Goodwin of Nansemond County, May 30, 1918, and they are the happy parents of four children and thirteen grandchildren.

Senator Moses' district now includes the Counties of Appomattox, Amherst, Amelia, Buckingham, Cumberland, Nelson and Powhatan. His committees are Roads and Internal Navigation (Chairman), Privileges and Elections, Counties, Cities and Towns, Agriculture, Mining and Manufacturing, Rules and Printing. /

He has been an ardent and consistent Democrat since attaining his majority.

In 1925 he was chosen a member of the Council of the town of Appomattox, where he served with distinction until chosen Senator in 1935.

On August 4, 1958, he was honored with the chairmanship of Virginia's Civil War Centennial, established to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the War Between the States.

V
CLERKS OF THE SENATE
1776-1956

JOHN PENDLETON, JR., OCTOBER, 1776-MAY, 1777

JOHN JAMES BECKLEY, 1777-1779

WILLIAM DREW, 1779-1785

HUMPHREY BROOKE, 1785-1802

THEODOSIUS HANSFORD, 1802-1824

ADDISON HANSFORD, 1824-1847

JOEL PENNYBACKER, 1849-1851

HENRY ST. GEORGE TUCKER, JR., JANUARY, 1852-DECEMBER, 1852

SHELTON C. DAVIS, 1853-1879

CHARLES HENRY CAUSEY, 1880-1882

JAMES DUDLEY PENDLETON, M.D., 1883-1895

JOSEPH BUTTON, 1895-1906

MARSHALL BURNSKILL BOOKER, 1908-1912

ORION VICTOR HANGER, 1912-1940

JOHN R. JETER, JANUARY 4-10, 1940

EVERETT RUSSELL COMBS, 1940-1957

JOHN PENDLETON, JR.

CAROLINE

Initial Clerk, Oct., 1776-May, 1777

PENDLETON, JOHN JR.—The initial Clerk of the Senate of Virginia was born in Caroline County, a son of John Pendleton and a nephew of the illustrious Judge and initial Speaker of the House of Delegates.

One of the two original copies of the Journal of the Senate of the initial Session is on file in the New York City Public Library and records John Pendleton, Jr., as being unanimously chosen Clerk of the Senate, but does not give his place of residence. He resided in Hanover County and in Richmond, and died in Hanover County in 1777. His brother Edmund was also called Junior and inherited the fortune of his Uncle Judge Edmund Pendleton.

The Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Virginia, E. B. Pendleton, Jr. is a relative of the first Clerk of the Senate.

JOHN JAMES BECKLEY

LOUISA

Clerk, 1777-1779

BECKLEY, JOHN—Sometimes the name appeared as "Bickley" and he is credited as the mystery man of the early Jeffersonian period. Born in Great Britain in 1757, son of Sir William and Margaret Overton Bickley of Devonshire, England, he came to America at the age of eleven to reside with an uncle who had settled in Louisa County.

His preparatory education is not creditably listed, but he was an honor graduate and an initial member of the Phi Beta Kappa Society of William and Mary. While attending William and Mary he was chosen Clerk of the Senate as successor to John Pendleton, Jr.

In the thirty-five years he served his adopted city, state and nation, he established a most remarkable record for efficiency.

In 1777 he became Clerk of the House of Delegates and supervised the removal of the records from Williamsburg to the first building occupied as the first Capitol in Richmond at Fourteenth and Pearl (now Cary) Streets.

The outward appearance of the old wooden structure was passed up by Benedict Arnold in his Torching of Richmond. He served as Secretary of the Convention in 1788 when Virginia, the pivotal state, ratified the Federal Constitution. In the above interim he served as Assistant Clerk of the Committee of Safety of which Edmund Pendleton was President, Clerk of the Committee of Courts of Justice, Commerce and Trade of the House, and Clerk of the High Court of Chancery (now the Supreme Court of Appeals).

He entered the political arena of his adopted city, Richmond, by being chosen as one of the nine members of the bicameral form of government at its initial election July 2, 1782.

His ability was given additional recognition by his fellow citizens July 1, 1783, when he was chosen Mayor as successor to Dr. William H. Foushee.

On March 9, 1789, he was elected the first Clerk of the U. S. House of Representatives and President Thomas Jefferson is credited as having appointed him on January 27, 1802, the first

Librarian of Congress, an honor bestowed upon him as being the only man to hold both positions at the same time.

Early in the efficient performance of his multitudinous duties he eliminated his middle name of "James." He died at his estate in Louisa County in 1807.

A fitting and lasting tribute to his unusual career as a public servant and a distinguished father, is the City of Beckley, West Virginia, laid out by his son, Brigadier General Albert Beckley, from a portion of the vast acreage his father received from the government as a land grant, which he willed to his son.

WILLIAM DREW

BERKELEY

Clerk, 1779-1785

DREW, WILLIAM (or WILL)—Alternated signatures in affixing his name to documents in two County Courts and as Clerk of the Senate. In 1770 his signature began to appear on various documents as Clerk of Isle of Wight County. Although his appointment as Clerk does not appear on the Minute Book of the County, B. F. Johnson, former Clerk of Roanoke County, in his compilation (1888) of Old Virginia Clerks, lists William Drew as being the twelfth Clerk in the annals of Isle of Wight County.

In 1772 when Berkeley County was carved from Frederick County, Sir Thomas Nelson, Secretary of State under John Murray (Earl Dunmore), Governor in Chief 1771-1776, certified William Drew to the Board of Supervisors to become the first Clerk of Berkeley County, who promptly subscribed to the oath of those days to his Majesty's Person and Government and subscribed to the Test, and entered upon his duties.

There are numerous deeds and wills attested by the signature of William Drew in the records of Berkeley County to November 16, 1785. The Journal of the Senate of Virginia of October 24, 1779, records William Drew as having been elected Clerk and his services continued until October 17, 1785 when he resigned. Thus he followed the precedent established by his predecessor, John James Beckley, as holding two Clerkships at the same time.

Drew served as a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1776 as the representative of Berkeley County. Drew's will was probated in Berkeley County December 20, 1785 in which he left the residue of his estate to his wife, Hannah Powell Drew of Williamsburg, to whom he was wedded November 15, 1777, and to his son, Benjamin Drew.

NOTE: In the compilation of the biography of William (or Will) Drew, it was necessary to secure facsimile signatures of Drew as the unrecorded Clerk of Isle of Wight County, as the Clerk of Berkeley County and as the elected Clerk of the Senate, to prove that Drew was the one and same Clerk who served in the three clerkships. The facsimile of the signatures were submitted to William J. Van Schrieven, Archivist of the State Library, who promptly gave his opinion that the signatures were those of the same person.

HUMPHREY BROOKE

FAUQUIER

Clerk, 1785-1802

BROOKE, HUMPHREY—One of the nine related Brookes who saw service in the Revolutionary War, and one of the four Humphrey Brookes of prominence in the Potomac area during the eighteenth century. The Humphrey Brooke above referred to was a volunteer aide to General George Washington while his brother, Colonel George Brooke of Mantapike was General Washington's Quartermaster. Humphrey also served as a mid-shipman in the British Navy and as a member of and Clerk of the Convention of 1788.

In 1759 he was chosen Clerk of Fauquier County, which post he held for thirty-four years. Upon the creation of the Circuit Court he also served as Clerk of that Court. He was Clerk of the Senate from October 1785 to his death in 1802.

THEODOSIUS HANSFORD

KING GEORGE

Clerk, 1802-1824

HANSFORD, THEODOSIUS—Established the record for continuous holding of the same office by father and son, a record of 45 years of clerkship of the Senate. This had its initial beginning on December 6, 1802 when he was chosen clerk as successor of Humphrey Brooke, who had pen-quilled the proceedings for nearly a score of years.

"Theo," as he is recorded in the journals of the Senate, was born at Green Heights in King George County in 1768, where he lived his life as a successful farmer and law practitioner before being chosen Clerk of the Senate.

He was married twice, the father of three children by each of his wives. His duties as Clerk of the Senate most likely prevented him from enlisting in the War of 1812. In 1800 he was Supervisor of Elections in King George County when Thomas Jefferson was chosen as the nominee for President of the United States.

His great, great granddaughter, Mrs. Lucile Hansford Brooks of Fredericksburg, is the proud possessor of a number of volumes from his collection of rare books and a legal document that bears his signature as an attorney in 1806. He died at "Green Springs" in 1824.

In 1805 he resigned his ten years old commission as a notary public due to the insufficiency of notarial business.

ADDISON HANSFORD

KING GEORGE

Clerk, 1824-1849

HANSFORD, ADDISON—The eldest son of Theodosius Hansford, whose record for youthful entry as Clerk of the Senate exceeds that of his father by ten years, and his tenure of office was a year more than that of his father. Like his father, he was born at Green Heights where his grandfather settled in King George prior to the county being formed in 1721 from Richmond County.

Addison completed his law studies at Staunton in 1820 and upon his return began practice of law in King George continuing until 1824, when upon the death of his father he was chosen his successor as the sixth Clerk of the Senate since its creation in 1776.

A rather small man in size, he was the father of eleven children, two sons who died in infancy and nine daughters who grew to maturity. A stone marks his grave at Green Heights where he died in 1850 at the age of fifty years.

JOEL PENNYBACKER

SHENANDOAH

Clerk, 1849-1851

PENNYBACKER, JOEL—Prior to being Clerk of the Senate he was an active member of that body 1830-35 representing Shenandoah, Page and Hardy Counties, and was appointed Clerk on the death of the veteran Addison Hansford. Senator and Clerk Joel Pennybacker was a worthy and industrious son of Samuel Pennybacker who served as United States Marshal for the Western District of Virginia. He refused the appointments of U. S. Attorney General and member of the Supreme Court of Appeals of the United States tendered him by President Van Buren and was one of the foremost iron industrialist of the Valley as well as an excellent attorney.

Senator-Clerk Pennybacker was president of the Valley Turnpike Company 1841-43, which constructed the hard surface road from Winchester to Harrisonburg. His acceptance of Clerk of the Senate gave him contact with iron officials in the Richmond area, including General Joseph R. Anderson, President of the Tredegar Iron Works.

He was a capable Clerk and enjoyed a wide acquaintance through the Valley. Upon retirement he returned to the Pennybacker estate, Pine Forge, and died April 5, 1862. His brother, John, served as a member of the House from Rockingham 1859-63.

HENRY ST. GEORGE TUCKER, JR.

FREDERICK

Clerk, Jan., 1852-Dec. 21, 1852

TUCKER, ST. GEORGE, JR.—Credited as one of the wittiest and most gifted men of his day, author of the dedicatory poem to the equestrian statue of Washington in the Capitol Square, "The Southern Cross," "Hansford, A Tale of Bacon's Rebellion" and other writings. He was born near Winchester January 5, 1828, son of Henry St. George Tucker, professor of law at the University of Virginia and President of the Virginia Court of Appeals 1831-41.

He studied at the University of Virginia and graduated in law at William and Mary under his uncle, Judge N. Beverley Tucker. He was Clerk of the Senate during 1852, resigning to become Clerk of the House of Delegates, serving through the session of 1858, after which he tendered his resignation to open an academy to instruct youths.

In response to Virginia's call in 1861, he organized and captained the Ashland Grays, which became a unit of the 15th Virginia Regiment of Volunteers. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

He died in Charlottesville January 24, 1863, from exposure in the Seven Days Battle around Richmond.

He married Elizabeth Anderson Gilmer, daughter of Governor and Mrs. Thomas Walker Gilmer 1840-41. He was the grandson of St. George Tucker, the jurist, who came from Bermuda. The Right Reverend Beverley Dandridge Tucker, the father of two bishops, was his nephew.

SHELTON C. DAVIS

RICHMOND

Clerk, 1853-1879

DAVIS, SHELTON C.—Born in Hanover County in 1818, moved to Richmond in his early teens. For fifteen years prior to being chosen Clerk of the Senate on January 2, 1853, he had served as an efficient assistant to the Auditor of Public Accounts. His Clerkship of the Senate covered a quarter of a century and he is credited as being the legislative parliamentarian of his day, a man of great urbanity of manner and pleasing address.

He was a brother of Stephen N. Davis, member of the House of Delegates from Henrico 1874-75. His death certificate records his demise from a carbuncle from which he suffered untold agony. During his illness Charles H. Causey and Dr. James Dudley Pendleton served as Clerks until his death April 7, 1879.

The only blemish on his record of forty years of faithful and efficient service was his removal from office as Clerk of the Senate along with John Bell Bigger, Clerk of the House of Delegates on April 5, 1869, by orders of S. F. Chafflin, Assistant Adjutant General of the United States, acting under a joint resolution of Congress authorizing the removal of certain legislative officers of Virginia, at which time Virginia had not again become a member State of the Union.

CHARLES HENRY CAUSEY

NANSEMOND

Clerk, 1880-1882

CAUSEY, CHARLES HENRY—"Captain" Henry, as he was familiarly addressed by his fellow citizens of Nansemond County, saw the light of day in 1837 at New Castle, Delaware, where his father, an employee of the United States Government, was stationed.

The genial Captain's education was acquired at Hampton, Virginia Academy, Union College, Pennsylvania, and the University of Virginia, where he completed his law course.

On Virginia's call for her sons to defend her position on States' Rights, the future Senator was an instructor in a college in Georgia but he quickly responded to his adopted state's appeal, enlisting in the Third Virginia Cavalry. He was soon promoted to a first lieutenantcy. In 1862 his rank was raised to Captain in the Secret Service Corps, where he rendered valuable service to General John B. Magruder in the Seven Days Battles around Richmond. He resumed civil life after the four long years of meritorious service and again began the practice of his chosen profession in which he was most successful.

In 1880 after the death of the veteran Clerk Shelton C. Davis, he was chosen Clerk of the Senate.

In 1884-1887 he was chosen Senator to represent Nansemond, Isle of Wight and Southampton Counties. He served as Commonwealth Attorney of Nansemond County for a number of years and as Counsel for the Seaboard Air Line and Atlantic Coast Railroads until his death in 1890.

JAMES DUDLEY PENDLETON, M.D.

ORANGE

Clerk, 1883-1895

PENDLETON, J. D.—The only qualified M.D. to serve three periods as Clerk of the Senate and to be the loser by one vote in the Caucus of the Democratic Party on December 4, 1895, when he was defeated by Colonel Joseph Button by a vote of 16 to 15.

Dr. Pendleton, who is recorded in the various documents of the period in which he served as J. D. Pendleton, is a direct descendant of Philip Pendleton, his great great grandfather, the emigrant who came to America in 1674 at the age of 24 and settled in Caroline County and became the nestor of the Pendleton family that now covers most of the fifty states.

Following in the foot impressions of his father, Dr. Micajah Pendleton, he chose the medical profession as his future livelihood.

In 1895, when defeated by Joseph Button on his second candidacy for the office by a vote of 16 to 15, he returned to his home at Orange, Virginia, and resumed the practice of his profession.

Nat D. Pendleton, a member of the present house of Delegates, is a direct descendant and has been most cooperative in the compilation of the biographies of the various members of the Pendleton family, all of whom have been able representatives.

JOSEPH BUTTON

APPOMATTOX

Clerk, 1895-1906

BUTTON, JOSEPH—"Colonel"—Some years prior to the War Between the States there were two virile newspapers published in Lynchburg, the birthplace of many notable Virginians. "The Virginian," representing in those stirring political days the Whig Party, was owned and edited by Charles W. Button. "The Republican," owned and edited by Robert H. Glass, father of former U. S. Senator Carter Glass, was the recognized spokesman of the Democratic Party.

Messrs. Button and Glass were forceful writers, hitting straight from the shoulder, but it was a rarity for them to engage in personalities, although dueling was becoming popular among editors.

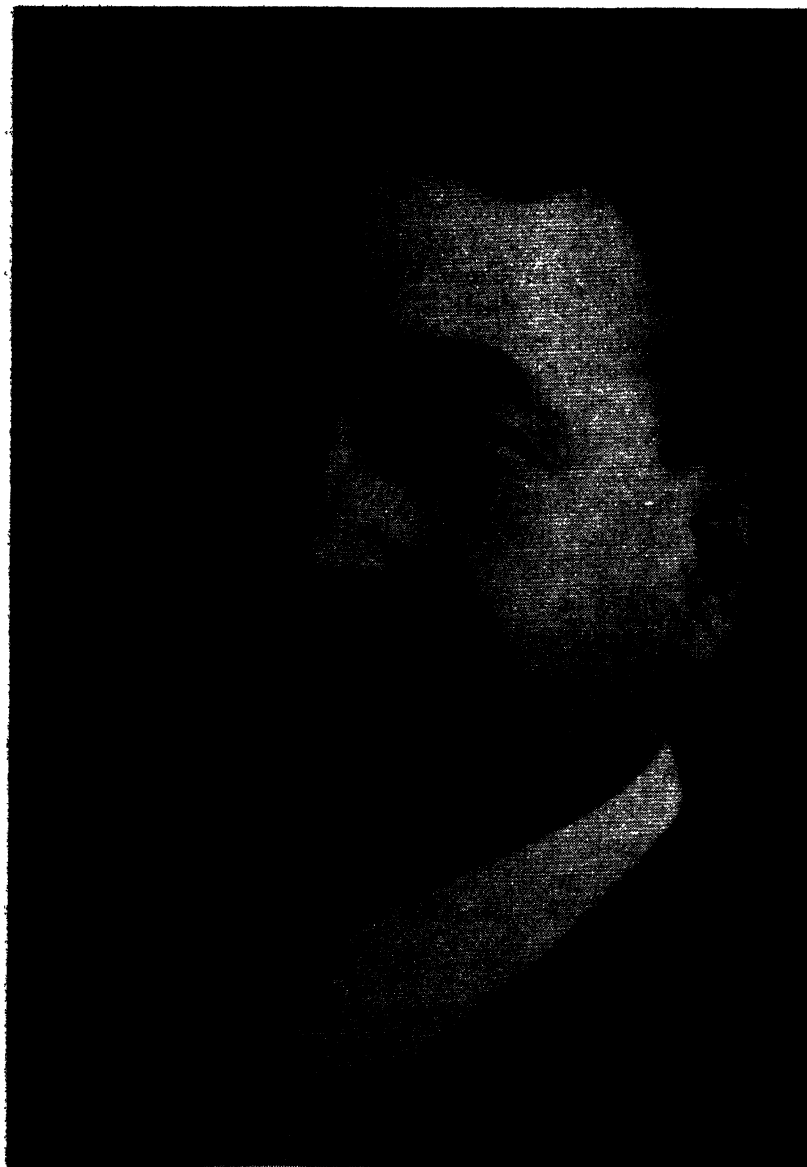
Joseph Button, a son of Charles W. Button, received his early education in the schools of Lynchburg. Upon completion of his high school course he entered the newspaper office of his father, later the insurance field attracted him. He was chosen Clerk of the Senate as successor to J. D. Pendleton, M.D., December 4, 1895, serving until 1906.

On the creation of the office of Insurance Commissioner, he was the unanimous choice of a joint session for the Commissionership. The Corporation Commission refused to permit him to qualify on the grounds his election was unconstitutional, but on an appeal to the Supreme Court a mandamus was issued in favor of his election. While engaged in the insurance business he studied law and was a practicing attorney at Appomattox when chosen Clerk.

The genial, robust, ever-smiling, efficient Senate Clerk was a member of the staff of Governor Mann, Secretary of the Virginia-West Virginia Debt Commission, and member of the Board of Visitors of V. M. I. under several governors.

He was an active Democratic Party worker and served as a member of the Central Committee from 1894 to 1916, being Secretary of the Committee 1896 to 1906, and for twenty years he was chairman of the 10th (now the 4th) Congressional District.

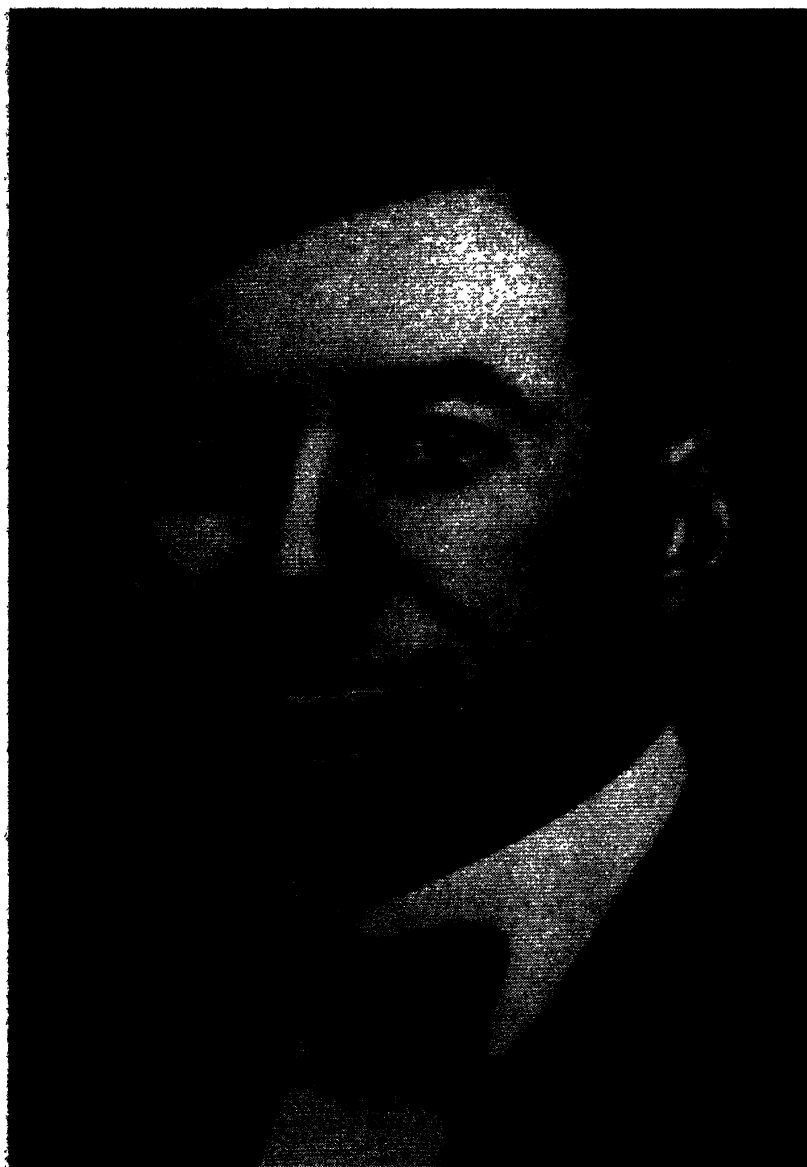
He died in Richmond November 10, 1943. The active pall



JOSEPH BUTTON

bearers at Richmond and at Spring Hill Cemetery, Lynchburg, were members of the V. M. I. Cadet Corps.

On one occasion the Colonel had a slight difference of views with a high state official who shortly afterwards became a candidate for a national office. A few days prior to the election the Colonel was most active in his precinct at Appomattox. The result of the tellers' count at the closing of the ballot box was zero in votes for the prominent state official who ran a poor second in the state-wide election.



MARSHALL BURNSKILL BOOKER

MARSHALL BURNSKILL BOOKER

HALIFAX

Clerk, 1908-1912

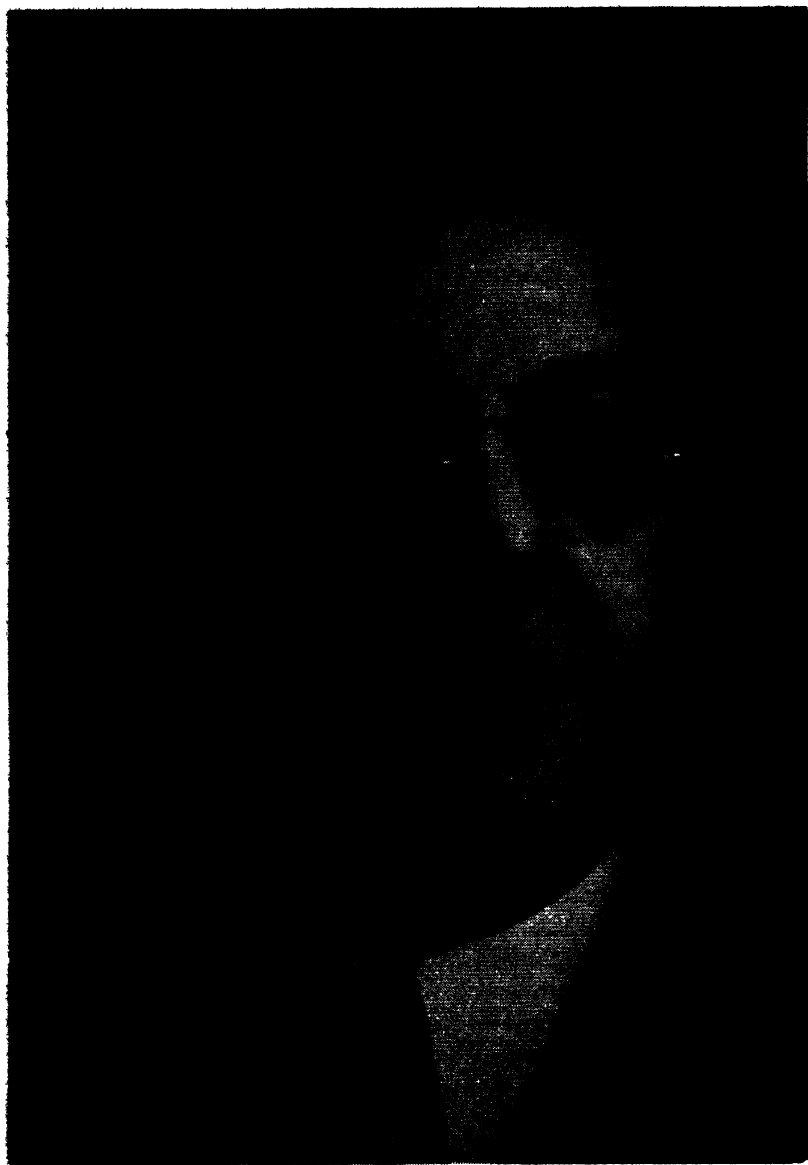
BOOKER, MARSHALL B.—Halifax County rendered thirty-four years of outstanding service to his county, starting from his entry as the youngest member of the House of Delegates on the convening of that body January 10, 1906 to his death, July 8, 1940.

He was born at Belroy, Gloucester County, where his father, Major George E. Booker, C.S.A., a member of the Methodist Conference, was stationed.

His early education was acquired at Margaret's Academy on the Eastern Shore and his legal studies at the University of Virginia. His participation in the house debates were more along the lines of one far more mature than the youngest of the one hundred members. He was dignified and engaging with the mannerisms and actions of an accomplished gentleman. His mind trained to correct thinking, his conception quick, clear and strong, he reasoned with great cogency and his voice was finely toned. The ability he displayed in the House was recognized by the members of the Senate in 1908 when he was chosen as the successor to the popular Joseph Button as Clerk, where he served until 1912, when he became the Commonwealth Attorney of Halifax.

In 1919 he resigned to accept the senatorship made vacant by the resignation of Senator James T. Lacy. In 1929 he resigned as Senator to again become Commonwealth Attorney of Halifax County, which office he was ably serving at his death.

He was an enthusiastic member of the Virginia War Memorial Commission that erected the Carillon in 1928 and served a number of years as a member of the Conservation and Development Commission. His portrait graces the walls of the Court House of Halifax County. He served as Chairman of the Virginia Delegation to the National Convention in 1912.



ORION VICTOR HANGER

ORION VICTOR HANGER

AMHERST

Clerk, 1912-1940

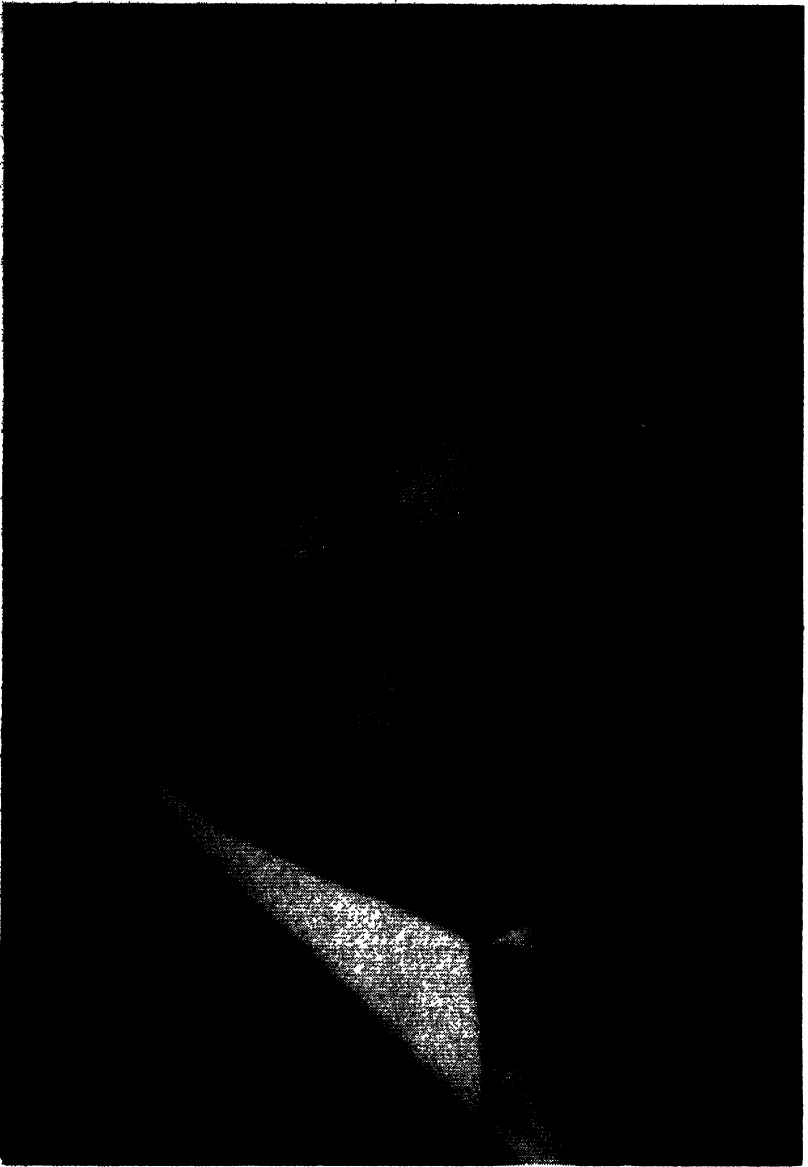
HANGER, O. V. "Vic"—His tenure of office as Clerk for twenty-eight years is the longest of the sixteen Clerks of the Senate; in addition, Hanger served as a committee Clerk and assistant Clerk from 1902 to 1912, a total of thirty-eight years.

"Vic," as he was greeted, was born at Churchville, Augusta County, August 4, 1875. He attended local schools of Augusta, Claremont Academy in Rockingham and Bryant and Stratton Commercial School in Louisville.

He spent several years with the firm of Dandridge and Hanger in the construction of the Chicago Drainage canal. In 1897 he returned to Virginia and engaged in the hardware business at Amherst, where he acquired the local agency for the American Seeding Machine Company, becoming its manager for four states with headquarters at Lynchburg. Not desirous of continual traveling, he accepted a committee clerkship of the Senate under Colonel Joseph Button and his successor Marshall B. Booker. On the resignation of Clerk Booker, December 28, 1912, he was appointed Clerk by Governor William Hodges Mann for the unexpired term, and he rendered excellent service in modernizing the methods employed in the conduct of the affairs of the Senate for twenty-eight years.

Clerk Hanger served at the headquarters of Senator Byrd and former Attorney General John Garland Pollard in their successful campaigns for Governor. He was Secretary of the Amherst County Democratic organization for over twenty years.

In 1926 he became the proud recipient of two gifts. The members of the Senate, in appreciation of his excellent service, presented him with a gold watch, and his staff presented a gold watch fob set with diamonds on the back of which appeared a replica of the seal of Virginia. He died at his home in Amherst on January 4, 1940.



JOHN RICHARD JETER

JOHN RICHARD JETER

RICHMOND CITY

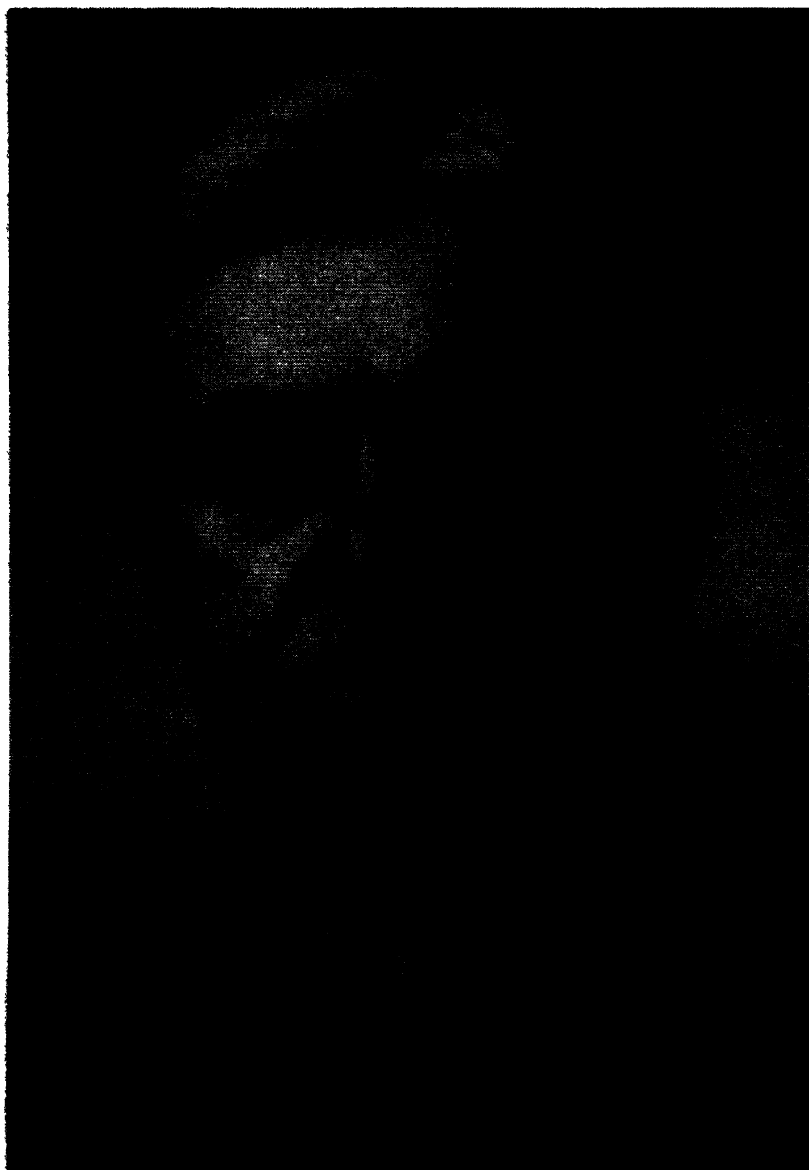
Clerk, January 4-10, 1940

JETER, JOHN R.—Served as an employee and officer of the Senate of Virginia for forty-two years, and is credited as being its Clerk for the shortest duration of time of any of the sixteen Clerks to whom the oath of office was administered in the 180 years since its inception in 1776.

The genial, large frame, six-foot familiar figure in the administration of the various duties he performed was born in Henrico County, May 23, 1877. Upon the annexation of that section of the county where his early years were spent, he became a resident of Richmond. In 1906 he was chosen door keeper and served as Committee Clerk, Assistant and Clerk until January 10, 1940, and afterwards as index clerk until his death October 27, 1948.

On January 4, 1940, on the death of Clerk Orion Victor Hanger, Governor James H. Price appointed Jeter Clerk for the unexpired term. On the convening of the Senate session January 10th, Clerk Jeter, due to the illness of Lieutenant Governor Saxon W. Holt, opened the session and presided for the few minutes while the body was electing Senator Henry T. Wickham of Hanover President Pro Tempore. On assuming the duties as Clerk, E. R. Combs appointed his predecessor as index clerk, which position he filled with ability until his many months of illness prevented him from rendering full time service.

On the death of the veteran employee, Lieutenant Governor Lewis Preston Collins, II appointed the following Senators; Lloyd C. Bird, Robert O. Norris, Jr., Frank S. Richeson, Charles W. Crowder and James E. Gardner, as a committee to attend the last rites of Mr. Jeter on October 29, 1948.



EVERETT RANDOLPH COMBS

EVERETT RANDOLPH COMBS

RUSSELL

Clerk, 1940-1957

COMBS, E. R.—Was the recognized “Chief” of the dominant Democratic organization of Virginia by friend and foe, from his appointment to the created positions of Comptroller and Chairman of the Compensation Board, by Harry Flood Byrd as Governor January 1st, 1926. The dignified, courageous, robust, ruddy complexioned “Chief of Staff” with a large head of white hair was a commanding figure, when he spoke, which was seldom. His voice was soft, his words chosen with deliberate care and delivered in an unhurried distinctly Southern accent. The “Chief” was born in Russell County January 18, 1876, the birthplace of his parents and grandparents. His education was acquired at Tazewell College. Afterwards he taught school and farmed until 1911 when he decided to become the Democratic candidate for the Clerkship of Russell, that possessed a large Republican electorate. He conducted his campaign from the saddle, visiting every community and was successfully chosen by more than 600 majority. He was twice re-elected Clerk and was serving in that capacity when Governor Byrd tendered him the Office of Comptroller of which he accepted and filled with an excellent performance of duty until Governor James H. Price removed him from office for political reason. His absence was of only six months’ duration when he returned with the increased duties as Chairman of the Compensation Commission, where his unusual knowledge of local political problems and his wide state acquaintance of office holders kept him in intimate touch with the state’s political complexion.

Following the death of Senate Clerk O. V. Hanger, January 4, 1940, the Democratic caucus chose Mr. Combs Clerk of the Senate and he established two precedents. He qualified as Clerk under the oath of office administered by Senator Saxon W. Holt, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and at once appointed John R. Jeter, his one week predecessor, a veteran of the Clerk’s office, a clerk and librarian of the Senate.

Mr. Combs’ political ability which rose to national fame became recognized when as Chairman of the Democratic Party of Russell County he was chosen Chairman of the Ninth District

Committee and was an important factor in the election of former Governor George C. Peery over Bascom Slemp, Jr., the long time entrenched Republican Congressman of the Ninth District.

He also managed Senator Byrd's forces in 1923 in the Ninth District in the successful campaign of "Pay-as-you-go Road Building" proposal, and in 1925 he was field director in the Ninth District for State Senator Harry Flood Byrd's campaign for Governor.

The Chief was a genius in outlining political campaigns and in appraising political trends. No man of his time in Virginia was more astute in these regards and his advice as to strategy and tactics must have been invaluable to the leaders of the dominant factors of the Democratic Party in Virginia and the nation where he served for a number of years as a member of the National Democratic Committee and as a delegate to several National Conventions.

Mr. Combs died suddenly Saturday, January 7, 1957, in his room at a Richmond Hotel at the age of 81.

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